RIDD, M.F., BARBER, A.J. & CROW, M.J. [Eds.] (2011): **The Geology of Thailand.** – Geol. Soc. of London, 626 pgs., ill., London.

ISBN: 978-1-86239-322-6.

£ 100.00.

www.geolsoc.org.uk/en/Publications/Bookshop/Search/GOTHH.aspx?ec_trk=followlist&ec_trk_data=Search

From the European perspective Thailand in south east of Asia is rather far away, thus getting a comprehensive overview of the geology of this country might be a real challenge. But since M.F. Ridd, A.J. Barber and M.J. Crow published their book "The Geology of Thailand" in summer of 2011, this country in SE Asia becomes much more familiar to us. Not less than 26 persons contributed to this large monograph (626 pgs.), which is divided into 21 chapters.

After an introduction (Chapter 1) they describe the country from the stratigraphic side, starting with the "Basement rocks in Thailand" (Chapter 2) up to the Quaternary (Chapter 12). Some further chapters deal with petroleum geology, coal deposits, volcanic rocks, granitic rocks, metalliferous minerals and regional geophysics. Finally, two tectonic chapters (The origin, movement and assembly of the pre-Tertiary tectonic units of Thailand & Tectonic and thermal evolution of Thailand in the regional context of SE Asia) link to the last part dealing with tektites.

Numerous excellent figures and a long list of references at the end of each chapter make this book a standalone monograph for the next decades to all people who are interested in several geoscientific aspects of Thailand and even for SE Asia.

A short glossary of commonly-used Thai geographical terms (Phu-khao = mountain; Hin = rock, Nam = Water…) will serve for better understanding when being in the country.

Thomas Hofmann

SCHNEUWLY-BOLLSCHWEILER, M., STOFFEL, M. & RUDOLF-MIKLAU, F. [Eds.] (2012): **Dating Torrential Processes on Fans and Cones – Methods and Their Application for Hazard and Risk Assessment.** – Advances in Global Change Research, Vol. 47, XXXII + 423 pgs., 146 illus., Dordrecht – Heidelberg – New York – London (Springer).

ISBN: 978-94-007-4335-9.

€ 142,94.

http://www.springer.com/environment/book/978-94-007-4335-9

This book was realized within "AdaptAlp", a project funded by the Alpine Space Program of the European Commission, the project and thus the book contributes to fill the gap between scientists and engineers and planers by providing a detailed overview on methods for the dating of historical events and by fostering the discussion on the impact of past and potential future climatic changes on torrential processes. The book includes four main parts and some more subchapters.

Part I ("Material transport and Fan or Cone Formation") deals in five subchapters with sedimentary processes, triggers for debris flows, the debris flow runout and deposition on the fan.

Part II ("Dating Past Events"), which is the biggest part (pages 106–306), sums up all methods in order to define the age of these events. Thus silent witnesses like e.g., drunken trees from Gschliefgraben in Upper Austria, as well historical sources, airborne methods, dendrogeomorphology, vegetation analysis, lichenometric dating, lake sediments as archives of past flood events, cosmogenic nuclids, luminiscence dating and some other are described in detail.

Part III ("Documentation and Monitoring") has only three subchapters, one points out "Rainfall Thresholds for Possible Occurrence of Shallow Landslides and Debris Flows in Italy".

Part IV ("Application of Event Dating in Practice") has some essential chapters, which will be essential for the daily challenges in practical work (in the field) such as: hazard assessment, the influence of hazard mapping on risk-based decision making, hazard mapping and land-use planning, design criteria for torrential barriers, forecasting, early warning and event management.

To conclude: an excellent book, which will help researchers, as well as engineers and planers to understand the complex processes of torrents in the Alpine realm. This publication will be a useful guide in the daily challenges of hazard and risk assessment.

Thomas Hofmann