"DESTINATION EARTH"

1) Overall

- The reader should gain appreciation for the manifold environment.
- The reader should understand the importance of protecting our planet.
- The reader should become aware of the uncertainty of prognosis in respect of the climate change.
- The reader should acquire basic skills in reading and interpreting maps.
- The reader should improve his media competence.
- The reader should become aware of the interlinkage of many factors, global consequences of local actions and chain effects.

2) Individual Destinations

A) Valais, Switzerland

- Glaciers as global fresh water reserve
- Impact of glacier melting on sea level
- Increased speed of glacier melting in last decades
- Meaning of albedo

B) Antarctica

- Impact of glacier and ice cap melting on sea level
- Importance of the major ice shield for earth albedo
- Difficulties in predicting exact reaction to climate change
- Antarctic Treaty

C) Arctic

- Importance for the earth albedo
- Destruction of entire ecosystem if melting continues
- · No impact on global sea level by melting

D) Europe

- Getting familiar with the European map
- Impact of sea level rise
- Protection against rising sea level
- Causes of the sea level rise

E) Solomon Islands

- Consequences of rising ocean temperatures and acidification
- Destruction of ecosystem
- · Meaning of coral bleaching
- · Rising sea level as threat for island nations

F) Beijing, China

- Harm of air pollution
- Traffic, industry and agriculture as source of CO2 emissions
- Greenhouse gases and their consequences in the atmosphere
- "Clean" energy

G) Alaska, United States

- Structure of permafrost
- Consequences of thawing permafrost
- Natural CH4 and CO2 emissions
- · Complexity of building on permafrost