

# THE ITALIAN YOUNG GEOMORPHOLOGISTS: A NEW BORN GROUP IN THE ITALIAN SCIENTIFIC FRAMEWORK

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In the recent years, all around Europe, young geomorphologists are acquiring an important role inside the scientific community and they are organizing themselves at national levels in order to share their research results and experience in the different branches of Geomorphology. Often, young scientists apply new technologies, enhancing innovative research fields and methods, especially with the aim of monitoring and predicting the possible evolution of morphogenetic systems. These findings are fundamental in the framework of geomorphological hazards and risk scenarios evaluations.

The Italian Association of Physical Geography and Geomorphology (AIGeo), established in 2000, has the aim of promoting, encouraging and coordinating the researches in the field of Physical Geography and Geomorphology and it is organized in different Working Groups active on different research topics. In 2013, AIGeo decided to build up the new Group of Italian Young Geomorphologists. Up to now, in fact, *Young Geomorphologists' Meetings* have been organized every 2 years since 2005 and *Geomorphological Survey Stages* have been carried out every year since 2009. During these occasions, Young Geomorphologists demonstrated to actively contribute to the researches of the different AIGeo Working Groups.

Since its birth, the Italian Young Geomorphologists Group has been organizing activities to allow the coordination and collaboration among its members. Moreover, the contact with the analogous international groups will be useful for scientific exchange of ideas and opportunities. The members of the group are Post-Doc researchers and PhD students coming from different Italian Universities and Research Institutes, who are focused on multi-disciplinary and innovative research activities and topics.

- LANDSLIDE SUSCEPTIBILITY ASSESSMENT: geomorphological hazard assessment and mapping, geostatistical analysis, physically based models (Cama; Di Michele, Giachetta, Giacopetti, Gioia, Mancinelli, Sciarra, Vergari)

- DEBRIS FLOW SUSCEPTIBILITY: geomorphological hazard and modelling (Scorpio, Cama)
- SOIL EROSION: slope erosion modelling and badland monitoring, geomorphological hazard, quantitative geomorphology (Coco, Giachetta, Gioia, Pulice, Vergari)
- FLUVIAL AND HYDRO GEOMORPHOLOGY: recent channel adjustments, alluvial fan susceptibility, flood hazard assessment and mapping, hydrologic modeling (Bollati, Cavitolo, Giachetta, Giacopetti, Gioia, Scorpio)
- COASTAL AND SUBMARINE GEOMORPHOLOGY: geomorphological evolution, climatic variations and sea level changes (Mucerino, Prampolini)
- KARST GEOMORPHOLOGY (Tonelli)
- TECTONIC GEOMORPHOLOGY: Long-term landscape evolution (Cavitolo, Giachetta, Gioia, Urbano)
- GEOMORPHOSITES, CULTURAL HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS: monitoring, enhancement and educational applications, analysis of the relation between war events and geomorphology (Bollati, Pica, Vergara)
- GLACIAL GEOMORPHOLOGY (Bollati, Leonelli)
- DENDROGEOMORPHOLOGY AND CLIMATE RECONSTRUCTIONS: spatio-temporal analysis of past and recent geomorphological events, past climate reconstructions by means of dendroclimatology (Bollati, Gioia, Leonelli, Pulice)

Each of these research fields is based on the tricky and fundamental steps of geomorphological mapping and GIS analysis.

The interests of the Italian Young Geomorphologists Group towards new tools and methods for investigating geomorphological hazards and the exchange of ideas with other similar realities all around Europe are expected to increase the quality of the Italian scientific research in the applied geomorphological fields of research.