

The Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra of the University Federico II, Naples



is pleased to announce the International Congress

**People/environment relationships
from the Mesolithic to the Middle Ages:
recent geo-archaeological findings in Southern Italy.**

Salerno (Italy) 4-7 september 2007

Organised in collaboration with
Soprintendenza Archeologica per le province di Salerno, Avellino e Benevento
Soprintendenza Archeologica per le province di Napoli e Caserta
Soprintendenza Archeologica di Pompei

Under the patronage of
*INNOVA: Centro Regionale di Competenza per i Beni Ambientali e Culturali in Campania,
Amministrazione Comunale di Salerno*
AIQUA: Associazione Italiana per lo studio del Quaternario
AIGEO Associazione Italiana di Geomorfologia
INGV: Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia
GSL: The Geological Society of London
CUEBC: Centro Universitario Europeo per i Beni Culturali (Ravello)

FIRST CIRCULAR

Premise

As is well known, Southern Italy is very rich in well studied-archaeological sites that cover from early Prehistory to Proto-history, the Greek–Roman period and the Middle Ages. These sites fall in an unusual variety of geomorphological contexts, offering great opportunities to observe situations where different natural phenomena have interacted with Man and have left precious archaeo-stratigraphical records of the events.

In this respect, the region of Campania (including the Provinces of Naples, Avellino, Benevento, Caserta and Salerno) is one of the most interesting of the Country, being especially rich in sites dating from the Eneolithic to the Roman period and disclosing natural settings from seismically active areas to inland and island volcanoes; from mountainous landscapes to flat plains; from cave and travertine rich karstic zones to clayey-arenaceous hills and valleys exposed to accelerated erosion and landslides; from cliffed rocky coasts to coastal plains formed by prograding barrier-lagoon systems.

In Italy – as all over the world - the last decades have been marked by a noticeable proliferation of geo-archaeological studies, with a continuously expanding involvement of Earth scientists and with important advancements in both knowledge and methods. Correspondingly, both the demand and the offer of higher education and training in this field has been increasing.

Aims

The purpose of the meeting is to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of the progress in environmental geo-archaeology that has recently emerged from case-studies in Southern Italy. Attention will be on a relatively large time window (Late Stone Age to Middle Age) because it is not an aim of the congress to detail a specific period. There is rather the intention to focus the interdisciplinary area of geo-archaeological research that explores the two parallel - and often interacting - histories of human communities and of the host landscapes. In this respect the congress plans to collect and discuss not only specific results, but also contributions about approaches, methods and techniques.

Problems and perspectives related to the teaching of geo-archaeology and to the practice of “salvage archaeology” will be also treated; probably by means of Topic Debates.

Structure

The first two days (September 4 and 5) will be devoted to oral presentations, poster sessions and debates. A field trip will be organized on September 6 and 7 to give the participants an occasion to visit some of the most interesting archaeological sites of the Campania Region and to discuss their palaeo-environmental implications.

It will be a task of the Scientific Committee to screen the abstracts and direct the proposed communications to either an oral or a poster session. In principle, we would like to avoid parallel sessions, unless forced by a great number of communications.

More details about the Programme of the congress will be given in the Second Circular.

Organising institutions and Committee

The Congress is organised by the Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra of the Federico II University of Naples, in collaboration with the three governmental authorities (Soprintendenze Archeologiche; S.A.) supervising at the archaeological patrimony of the Campania Region: the S. A. of Napoli and Caserta Provinces, the S. A. of Salerno, Benevento and Avellino Provinces and the S. A. of Pompeii. The Organizing Committee includes:

- Aldo Cinque (Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università Federico II)
- Giuliana Tocco (Soprintendenza Archeologica per le Province di Salerno, Avellino e Benevento)
- Paola Romano (Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università Federico II)

- Claude Albore Livadie (CNRS , Centre Camille Jullian, Aix en Provence).
- Rosario Lambiase (Chief geologist ; Salerno Municipality)

Scientific Advisory Committee

- Aldo Cinque; Chair (Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università Federico II)
- Claude Albore Livadie (CNRS , Centre Camille Jullian, Aix en Provence).
- Luca Cerchiai (Dipartimento Beni Culturali, Università di Salerno)
- Mauro Cremaschi (Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università di Milano)
- Francesco Fedele (Istituto di Antropologia; Università Federico II, Napoli)
- Marco Firpo (Dipartimento Scienze della Terra,Università di Genova)
- Fabrizio Galadini (C.N.R.- INGV, Roma)
- Piero Guzzo (Soprintendenza Archeologica, Pompei)
- Alberto Incoronato (Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università Federico II)
- Christophe Morhange (University of Marseille, France)
- Maria Luisa Nava (Soprintendenza Archeologica, Napoli)
- Giuseppe Orombelli (Dipartimento di Scienze dell’Ambiente e del Territorio, Università di Milano-Bicocca)
- Elda Russo Ermolli (Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università Federico II)
- Giuliana Tocco (Soprintendenza Archeologica, Salerno)

Secretariat

Vincenzo Amato (University of Naples, Italy)
Biagio Giaccio (C.N.R. – I.G.A.G., Rome, Italy)

Location

The congress sessions (oral and poster) will be held in the monumental Town Hall of Salerno. This sea-side city of Southern Italy (50 km S of Naples and 250 km S of Rome) developed around a picturesque medieval centre, which hosts –among others- a cathedral in Romanesque-Byzantine style and the hilltop ruins of a Longobard castle. From the periphery of Salerno, the world-famous precipitous Amalfi Coast develops westwards, reaching the head of the Sorrento peninsula with the island of Capri in front of it. Not far from Salerno are other celebrated tourist attractions like the volcano Vesuvius and the archaeological sites of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Paestum.

How to reach there

Salerno is well served by the State railway and there are good motorways connecting it with the rest of Italy. The nearest airport is that of Capodichino (Naples) which is at about 50 km distance. Maps and detailed travel information will be provided in the Second Circular.

Accommodation

The city of Salerno has many good hotels and restaurants of different categories and costs. A map of suggested hotels and a list of their telephone numbers and e-mail addresses will be given in the Second Circular, which will also indicate some tourist organizations that may help to find lodging in Salerno. Each participant will be then asked to arrange their own hotel accommodation.

Call for papers

Earth scientists and archaeologists from all countries who have recently developed studies on Italian sites are warmly invited to present communications. Particularly welcome are papers adopting a multidisciplinary approach and exploring/exploiting the interactions between geological and archaeological issues and data.

Our preliminary selection of topic areas includes:

A -Geomorphological and pedological factors of ancient land use distributions and changes.

B -Sea-level change and coastal settlements.

C -Ancient communities and volcanic eruptions.

D -Geo-archaeological evidence of ancient earthquakes and tsunamis.

E -Climatic and anthropogenic causes of ancient vegetation changes.

F -Caliches and calcareous tufas in the geo-archaeological record

G - The human role in landscape sensitivity : examples from the past.

H -Forms of human reaction/adaptation to past environmental change.

I -Ancient extreme events in the geo-archaeological record.

L -Managing hillslope instability and soil erosion problems in the past.

M -Floodplain agriculture and riverside settlements in relation to fluvial morphodynamics.

However, participants are invited to suggested new topics if the paper they want to present fits the congress general aims but is not perfectly suited for any of the above listed themes.

Languages

The working languages of the colloquium will be English and Italian

Abstracts and papers publication

A volume including the extended abstracts of all accepted contributions will be published by the organisers and distributed to attendees at the Congress. It is hoped that a selection of the Congress papers will be published in a Special Publication of the Geological Society of London, subject to their usual review procedures. Other papers passing the review will be printed in the Italian journal of Quaternary studies "Il Quaternario". Moreover, as there are ongoing contacts with other journals, new opportunities could be offered with the Second Circular.

Registration and fees

In order to facilitate the organization work, you are kindly requested to complete and return the attached Pre-registration form by the end of September 2006.

The payment of fees can be done, at regular rates, from the issue of the Second Circular to March 15, 2007. Higher rates will be for late registration (i.e., after 3/15/07 and not later than 6/15/07).

	Regular rates	Late registration rates
Option 1	280,00 Euros	330,00 Euros
Option 2	80,00 Euros	100,00 Euros
Option 3	180,00 Euros	
Option 4	30,00 Euros	

Option 1 is for full participation (Congress + Field Trip) and includes: admission to all sessions; a copy of the Extended Abstract Volume; coffee breaks and lunches of the first two days; travel, food and lodging during the 2-days Field Trip.

Option 2 is for partial participation (Congress only) and includes: admission to all sessions; a copy of the Extended Abstract Volume; coffee breaks and lunches during the two days of congress.

Option 3 and 4 (equivalent to Options 1 and 2 respectively) are reserved to Masters and PhD students able to demonstrate their position. No late registration is possible for these categories.

Please, note that none of the above options and fees includes the hotel accommodation and food (breakfasts and dinners) in Salerno during the congress.

Instructions on how to pay fees will be provided in the Second Circular.

Deadlines

- September 30th 2006: Returning the Pre-registration Form with the provisional title and a short abstract of the paper to submit. **N.B.: This pre-registration is essential to receive the following Circulars!**
- November 30th 2006: Distribution of the Second Circular containing: the instructions for the compilation of extended abstracts; the information for travel, accommodation and fee payment; the Congress provisional programme and the Registration Form.
- March 15th 2007: Returning the final Registration Form with fee-payment and camera ready extended abstract.
- Late Spring 2007: Distribution of the Third Circular with the Final Programme of the congress.

This Circular and the annexed Pre-registration Form can be also downloaded from the web address http://www.news.unina.it/dettagli_agenda.jsp?ID=3277 by selecting "allegati: Scarica pdf".

Pre-registration form

(If you have downloaded this form as a pdf document, use Acrobat Professional to save it as a Word (.doc) file on your PC. Then fill it and send it back by e-mail as a .doc attachment)

First name _____ Last name _____ Title_____

Organization _____

Address_____

Zip-code _____ City _____Country _____

Tel_____Fax_____E-mail_____

(Make your selection below by typing X in the brackets)

() I will probably attend the congress. Please, send me the Second Circular

() I will attend the congress

() I will attend both the congress and the field trip

() I wish to submit a paper

Author(s):

Previsional title:

Short abstract (max 1 page) :

**This form is to be sent, duly completed and before the end of September 2006,
to the Congress Secretary: geoarcheologia@unina.it**