

**Report of the administrative meetings of Working Group “Geomorphological sites”  
Modena, 27 January 2003, 9.30 – 17.00 – Sion, 15 February 2003, 9.30 – 11.00**

**Present:**

Emmanuel REYNARD, chairman; Paola CORATZA, secretary; Sandra PIACENTE, full member (Italy); Mario PANIZZA, president IAG; Matthias GEYER, full member (Germany).

**1. Objectives of the meetings**

- Assessemnt and Mapping of Geomorphological Sites
- Next meetings: Workshop Sardegna 1-5 October 2003; IAG Regional Conference, Mexico City 27 October - 2 November 2003; Geological Conference, Firenze August 2004; Conference on Geomorphology, Zaragoza 2005.
- Publication of the Modena Workshop Proceedings
- Printing of flyer e poster

**2. Evaluation of Geomorphosites**

Paola Coratza and Cecilia Giusti present a methodology developed in the framework of the COFIN Project about the quantitative assessment of Geomorphological Sites. After the discussion it was decided the following:

- Paola and Cecilia will translate and distribute to the WG members the english version of the paper before the end of spring 2003
- Presentation and discussion of the methodology at the Cagliari Workshop in October 2003
- Between October 2003 and October 2004: testing of the methodology by the researchers of the COFIN Project and the members of the WG.

**3. Proceedings Workshop Modena**

Sandra Piacente and Mario Panizza inform that the Editors of "IL QUATERNARIO" and thus AIQUA (Italian Association for Quaternary Studies) have approved the proposal for a Special Issue of "Il Quaternario" as output of the IAG Workshop "Geomorphological Sites: research, assessment and improvement" held in Modena (Italy) last June. Therefore they invite the authors to send the papers **before 30 april 2003** to the following address:

Dr. Paola Coratza  
Largo S. Eufemia 19  
41100 Modena - Italy

**4. Workshop Cagliari, 1-5 October 2003**

A Workshop, named “Geomorphological Sites: assessment and mapping”, will be held in Sardegna (Italy) the next 1-5 October 2003, organised by Prof. Ulzega, Prof. Di Gregorio and Dr V. Panizza. This meeting marks the second (after Modena) official meeting of two research groups: the Working Group of the I.A.G. “Geomorphological sites” (International Association of Geomorphologists) and the COFIN 2001-2003 Italian Research Project “Geosites in the Italian landscape”. The main themes of this meeting will be assessment and mapping of Geomorphological Sites. For further information see the First Circular that will soon be put on the IAG web site (<http://www.geomorph.org/>).

Scientific secretary:

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### **5. IAG Regional Conference, Mexico City, 27.10 – 2.11.2003**

A half-day symposium on the theme "Geomorphological sites: vulnerability and assessment" will be held during the next IAG Regional Conference (Mexico City, 27.10 – 2.11.2003). The aim of the symposium is to present and discuss examples of evaluation of geomorphological sites, especially in a context of vulnerability (e.g. inventories of sites of importance, geomorphological evaluation in the context of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), evaluation and protection of dynamic processes, etc.). The symposium should also be a forum for presenting the activities of the IAG Working Group "Geomorphological Sites: research, assessment and improvement". The chairmen of the symposium will be E. Reynard and E. Latrubesse. Information: [www.smg.igeograf.unam.mx/smg/gs.html](http://www.smg.igeograf.unam.mx/smg/gs.html) In terms of the organisation, we would request you to send the abstracts to the following address: [mexicoabstracts@igiris.igeograf.unam.mx](mailto:mexicoabstracts@igiris.igeograf.unam.mx) **before the 31 of March 2003.**

### **6. 32nd International Geological Congress (32IGC), Florence (Italy) 2004**

The Geological Conference in Florence in August 2004 will be the occasion for the members of the Working Group to present papers especially in the T.17.01 session (Geomorphological sites in a cultural integrated landscape; chair: M. Panizza, E. Reynard) e T.14.03 (Geological heritage and tourism). More information: [www.32igc.org/](http://www.32igc.org/)

### **7. Sixth International Conference on Geomorphology, Zaragoza (Spain) 2005**

The Sixth International Conference on Geomorphology taking place in Zaragoza in 2005 will be the last meeting of the Working Group, where the final expected products could be presented, in particular:

- Final report on the main topic of the WG (assessment, mapping, education etc.)
- A standardised proposal of a research methodology on Geomorphological sites
- Annotated bibliography
- CD-Rom with images of Geomorphological Sites
- Proceedings of the Conferences and the Workshops (Finhaut, Modena, Cagliari, Messico, Firenze)

A volume will be printed with "guidelines", that wish to represent a standardised proposal of a research methodology on Geomorphological sites. These guidelines will also describe a quantitative assessment of Geomorphological sites, and a methodology for the mapping of Geomorphological sites. These "guidelines" will result in a publication (maybe a Special Issue in the "Geographica Helvetica" the Swiss Journal of Geography) in which all the researchers of this WG will co-operate and which will be presented at the Sixth International Conference on Geomorphology (Zaragoza, 2005). The structure of the volume could be the following:

- Introduction: definition of geomorphosites
- Guidelines for the assessment of Geomorphological sites
- Examples of the methodology's application to the Geomorphological sites assessment
- Mapping of Geomorphological sites
- Improvement
- If necessary: protection

### **8. Annual Report 2002**

A brief report on the main activities done and the future prospects of the WG will be prepared by E. Reynard and P. Coratza. The report will be structured as follows:

- Introduction
- Members
- 2002 Activities: workshop Modena, Conference in Valladolid, flyers e poster, bibliography
- Publication: Modena Proceeding, definition of geosites for the Encyclopedia of Geomorphology, Finhaut Proceeding, GeoAgenda information
- Website

- Proposal for the organization of an excursion at Zaragoza 2005 on the topic of Geomorphological sites
- Future perspectives

### **9. Flyer and poster**

A flyer about the activities of the Working group will be realised for April 2003. It could be sent or distributed by the members when they are making presentations, public lectures or when they are attending conferences or workshops. The flyer will be realised by E. Reynard (content) and M. Bertacchini (layout). With the same objective, a poster presenting the Working Group and its activities has been done. The poster could be used during conferences and workshops in order to publicized the WG activities. These two projects will received financial support from the Working Group.

Modena/Lausanne, 12 March 2003

Emmanuel Reynard, Chairman  
Paola Coratza, Secretary