

SEMINARIO



Ottone SCAMMACCA



From "georesources" to "geodiversity":

integrating soils and the abiotic world within sustainable land planning strategies

Wednesday, 11 December, 11.30 am

Room H – Aula "L. Gregori", Via Zefferino Faina 4

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Land planning implies the acknowledgement of all the geo-ecosystemic components of the territory. Such components organize the landscape and interact with human societies. However, despite their pivotal role in socio-ecological functioning, abiotic and interfacial (i.e., soils) components of natural diversity still tend not to find their due place within land planning, environmental management, and conservation strategies which often focus mostly on biodiversity. When they are considered, such components are indeed included in planning strategies as simple monofunctional resources.

These considerations converged within the development of the concept of "geodiversity," as a new prism to look at all non-living components of nature and as a new geological and geographical paradigm. This concept is operational and intended to serve land planning as well as geoconservation purposes. Nevertheless, the assessment of geodiversity in terms of site-specific richness and abundance appears insufficient to support such purposes. It is therefore critical to apprehend the ensemble of contributions that geodiversity provides to socio-ecological functioning (i.e., geofunctionality). Through the example of French Guiana - an Overseas French Territory located in South America where geodiversity has been traditionally associated exclusively to gold mining - this presentation has the purpose to explore new conceptual and methodological approaches to assess geodiversity contributions to human societies through the concept of ecosystem services and to serve prospective land-planning strategies.



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