Special Issue

Quaternary Stratigraphy of Alluvial and Coastal Plains: Recent Advances and Potential Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

Alluvial and coastal plains worldwide are densely populated regions, which have experienced massive urbanization in the last decades. Subsurface investigation of these areas is crucial to a number of applications, including exploitation of natural resources: planning of new infrastructures; and mitigation of geological risk related to earthquakes, river flooding, and marine inundations. In recent decades, there have been rapid improvements in techniques of subsurface investigation at different temporal and spatial scales using core and well-log correlation and geophysical surveys. In this scenario, Quaternary successions sparked interest among stratigraphers as formidable modern analogues for the interpretation of ancient strata. Quaternary studies are advantaged by (i) dating methods with high temporal resolution, (ii) poor tectonic deformation and limited diagenesis, (iii) source areas that do not experience substantial modifications, and (iv) fossil species comparable to modern bio-assemblages.

Guest Editors

Dr. Luigi Bruno

Department of Chemical and Geological Sciences, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, 41121 Modena MO, Italy

Dr. Bruno Campo

Department of Biological, Geological, and Environmental Sciences, University of Bologna, 40126 Bologna BO, Italy

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Understanding the Earth's origin and its bio-geological evolution, the multiple implications of the geosciences (as a coherentset of interconnected disciplines), and the sociocultural and ethical interdisciplinary approaches, will be crucial for a better understanding of Nature, and also for undertaking scientificallybased political decisions.

We are committed to drive *Geosciences* to a position in which it is recognized for its high-quality, cutting-edge research and scientific influence, and strongly encourage and invite your participation and manuscripts.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Alberto G. Fairén

- 1. Centro de Astrobiología, CSIC-INTA, Madrid, Spain
- 2. Department of Astronomy, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

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