

SHORT CURRICULUM VITAE
of
Prof. Paolo Billi

Professor of Fluvial Dynamics and Geomorphology in the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Ferrara, Italy.

Research

Prof. Paolo Billi research activity deals with the broad area of River Geomorphology, including specific topics such as River Hydrology, Sediment Transport, River Channel Processes, Sediment Yield, Gully Erosion and Soil Erosion Processes. A second main research area of his includes Global Change. Specific topics he investigates are Human impact on Rivers, Desertification processes, Land Degradation, Climate Change and River Response, Water Resources Conservation. Prof. Paolo Billi has been carrying out field and laboratory studies on these topics in Italy, in Europe and, since 1983, throughout the whole Horn of Africa in Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan and Eritrea. He is author of more than 170 papers in national and international journals.

International Experience

Within the University Co-operation Programme supported by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Prof. Paolo Billi has been appointed as senior lecturer at the Department of Earth Sciences and the Department of Geography of the Addis Ababa University for a few semesters. He gave courses such as Hydrology, Geomorphology, Hydrogeology, Geoengineering.

Within a bilateral scientific exchange program between the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the People's Republic of China, Prof. Paolo Billi led a delegation of Italian geo-hydrology scientists to visit the several research centres of the main Chinese Universities and of the Ministry of Water Conservancy and Electric Power, where he gave a few seminars and lectures on the Italian research activities on problems of water resources and fluvial hydrology.

Prof. Paolo Billi collaborated and still collaborate with many researchers from academic institutions in Europe and the USA and spent a few visits as visiting professors to Universities and Research Institutes in UK, USA, Denmark, Belgium and Argentina.

Conferences

Prof. Paolo Billi took part in the organization, as convenor, organizing committee member or secretary general of several national and international workshops and conferences.

Language Proficiency

- Italian: mother tongue.
- English: good spoken and written
- Amharic (main Ethiopian language): some basic knowledge of the spoken language, enough to communicate with local people.

Cooperation with developing countries

- Research collaboration with the University of Axum, Ethiopia, for the geomorphology and the environmental change of the archaeological area of Axum. Italian Ministry of Higher Education funds.
- Research collaboration with the Department of Geography of the University of Addis Ababa on the hydrogeomorphology of the ephemeral stream of the Kobo-Alamata basin in northern Ethiopia. National Geographic funds.
- Research collaboration with the University of Dire Dawa on the understanding, warning system setting, prevention and mitigation of flash floods in the town of Dire Dawa. University of Ferrara funds.
- Research collaboration with the Department of Earth Sciences of the University of Khartoum for the study of the sediment yield of the Blue Nile. Italian Ministry of Higher Education funds.
- Research collaboration with the National Natural History Museum of Asmara, Eritrea, for the study of the paleogeographic and paleohydrology of the Quaternary rivers in the Homo erectus site of Buia, Eritrean Danakil depression. Italian Ministry of Higher Education funds.

Prof. Paolo BILLI