



Geotube: a network based framework for Geoscience dissemination

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Geotube is a project promoted by Il Geco cultural association for the dissemination of Geoscience education in schools by open multimedia environments.

The approach is based on the following keystones:

- A deep and permanent epistemological reflection supported by confrontation within the International Scientific Community
- A close link with the territory
- A local to global inductive approach to basic concepts in Geosciences
- The construction of an open framework to stimulate creativity

The project has been developed as an educational activity for secondary schools (11 to 18 years old students). It provides for the creation of a network of institutions to be involved in order to ensure the required diversified expertise. They can comprise: Universities, Natural Parks, Mountain Communities, Municipalities, schools, private companies working in the sector, and so on.

A single project lasts for one school year (October to June) and requires 8-12 work hours at school, one or two half day or full day excursions and a final event of presentation of outputs.

The possible outputs comprise a pdf or ppt guidebook, a script and a video completely shot and edited by the students.

The framework is open in order to adapt to the single class or workgroup needs, the level and type of school, the time available and different subjects in Geosciences.

In the last two years the two parts of the project have been successfully tested separately, while the full project will be presented at schools in its full form in April 2016, in collaboration with University of Milan, Campo dei Fiori Natural Park, Piambello Mountain Community and Cunardo Municipality.

The production of geotube outputs has been tested in a high school for three consecutive years. Students produced scripts and videos on the following subjects: geologic hazards, volcanoes and earthquakes, and climate change.

The excursions have been tested with two different high schools. Firstly two areas have been selected for their geodiversity: Val d'Ossola and Varese District, both in the Southern Alps geological region. Then a group of five BS students from University of Milan have been involved in the production of guidebooks and geologic educational itineraries in the two areas. Some of these outputs have been tested within the SOLE (Social Open Learning Environment) Erasmus+ project. Then some of the selected itineraries have been used for excursions with students.

Partial tests have so far showed the high educational potential of the Geotube project allowing the creation of a network of institution collaborating for its success in the final complete form.