



Analysis of historical sources to temporal and spatial floods distribution along the Amalfi Coast (Southern Italy)

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This paper aims at providing a detailed description of the historical floods that have hit the Amalfi Coast (Southern Italy) since the XVI century. Detailed historical flood data constitute a sounder basis for a reliable risk assessment and consequent safer land planning on flood-prone areas. The study of historic floods requires a scientific systematic approach to identify the sources that can provide useful information on the events occurred in the past centuries.

The phase of data gathering includes the critical review of bibliography and accessible documental patrimony and search for possibly still undetected information in original coeval sources. The processing phase is based on the critical analysis of the collected information, completed by field studies: geological surveys, analysis of aerial photographs, building of databases and thematic maps at the best possible scale. In particular, the study of the extreme meteorological events occurred in the province of Salerno has been based on sources of various origin: archive documents, published papers and books, newspapers, iconographies, special laws/decrees issued after disasters, interviews of direct witnesses. The systematic search of historic fonts since the XVI century has led to the identification and classification of 100 flood events, that have affected the whole province of Salerno, and more specifically the drainage basins along the Amalfi coast.