

## **THIST, THE ITALIAN THESAURUS OF EARTH SCIENCES**

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The Italian Thesaurus of Earth Sciences (ThIST) has recently been published by the APAT Library. It represents the terminological standard tool for the knowledge organization within the Earth sciences domain. It presents 10350 descriptors linked to each other through 103854 relationships of hierarchical, associative and equivalence types in compliance with the norm ISO 2788: "Guidelines for the establishment and development of monolingual thesauri". The ThIST is a bilingual thesaurus since each individual descriptor has its equivalent in English.

The ThIST is applied for:

- the organization on conceptual bases of the bibliographic and cartographic material owned by the APAT Library (semantic indexing);
- the information retrieval of such a material by users.

From the terminological point of view, the ThIST draws from both the former CNR Italian Thesaurus and the Multilingual Thesaurus of Geosciences (MTG), edited by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). It has been then completely reassessed and enriched through a selective analysis of thousands candidate terms coming from the APAT Library database in order to achieve the present shape.

Its structure has followed the model of the Georef Thesaurus, edited by the American Geological Institute (AGI).

Now, the ThIST is being reorganized under a new structure based on a faceted arrangement, according to the current applications of the knowledge organization systems. In this way, it would be harmonized with the structure of the new release of the MTG, (presently still in progress) and more accessible for future interoperability with thesauri covering related subjects.