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Eleonora Bonifacio is full Professor of Pedology at the University of Torino, Dept. of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences (DISAFA) since October 2016, and has been working in soil science since 1992, firstly as a researcher (1992-2002), later as associate professor. She obtained her PhD in Soil Mineralogy in 1992, defending a thesis on the weathering of soil layer silicates, and has a MSc degree in Agricultural Sciences (1987, Thesis topic: Soil Chemistry, 110 cum laude).

She has spent two periods abroad as a visiting person in research laboratories: in 1991 at Liège University (Belgium) at the Laboratoire de Géologie des Argiles and in 2000, at CSIRO Land and Water in Adelaide (Australia). Besides Italy, she has experience on soil research in Botswana, Namibia, Czech Republic, Australia, Russia and Japan, acquired during several research projects, mainly funded by the EU. She speaks fluently English and French, but she has also studied German and Russian.

She was appointed her first official University course in 1996 and she currently teaches various aspects of Pedology to MSc students in Forest Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, and Viticulture and Oenology Sciences for about 180 hours/year. During past years she has also lectured for BSc degrees, post-graduated master courses, summer schools etc... She acted as thesis supervisor for both degree and master degree students, and supervised several PhD students in Applied Pedology (University of Palermo), Environmental Protection (university of Torino), and Agricultural, Forest, and Food Sciences (University of Torino).

She is now the vice-President of the Italian Society of Pedology, and served as the vice-chair of the Soil Mineralogy Commission of the International Union of Soil Sciences (2002-2006). She currently acts as Editor in Chief for CATENA (Elsevier, Q1) and sits in the editorial board of Geoderma (Elsevier, Q1) and EQA-Environmental Quality/Qualité de l'Environnement/Qualità Ambientale (non ISI).

She started being the principal investigator in peer-reviewed national projects in 1997, working on biological weathering of serpentine rocks and, since then she has been either the coordinator or the team leader in both international and national projects. Among EU projects, she acted as the coordinator in OMRISK (FP6. 8 partners). She coordinated a PRIN national project, and participated in other PRIN projects as team leader.

All her research interests are linked by the idea that soil properties are related to the soil genetic pathways, and that understanding these relationships helps in sustainable soil management and use. More specifically, the topics she has developed through the years are related to the building up of fertility properties, and to the impacts of forest management (clearcutting, alien species), natural and anthropogenic disturbances have on soil chemical and physical quality. Because of the importance of the soil as a carbon reservoir, a large part of the research has investigated the mechanisms of organic matter stabilization in soils, and the capacity that different soils have to face the effects of climate change such as e.g. wildfires or accelerated erosion.

She authored or co-authored about 200 scientific publications (including journal articles, book chapters and conference proceedings). The full list of indexed papers can be found in Scopus. Her Orcid id is: http://orcid.org/0000-0003-3488-672X