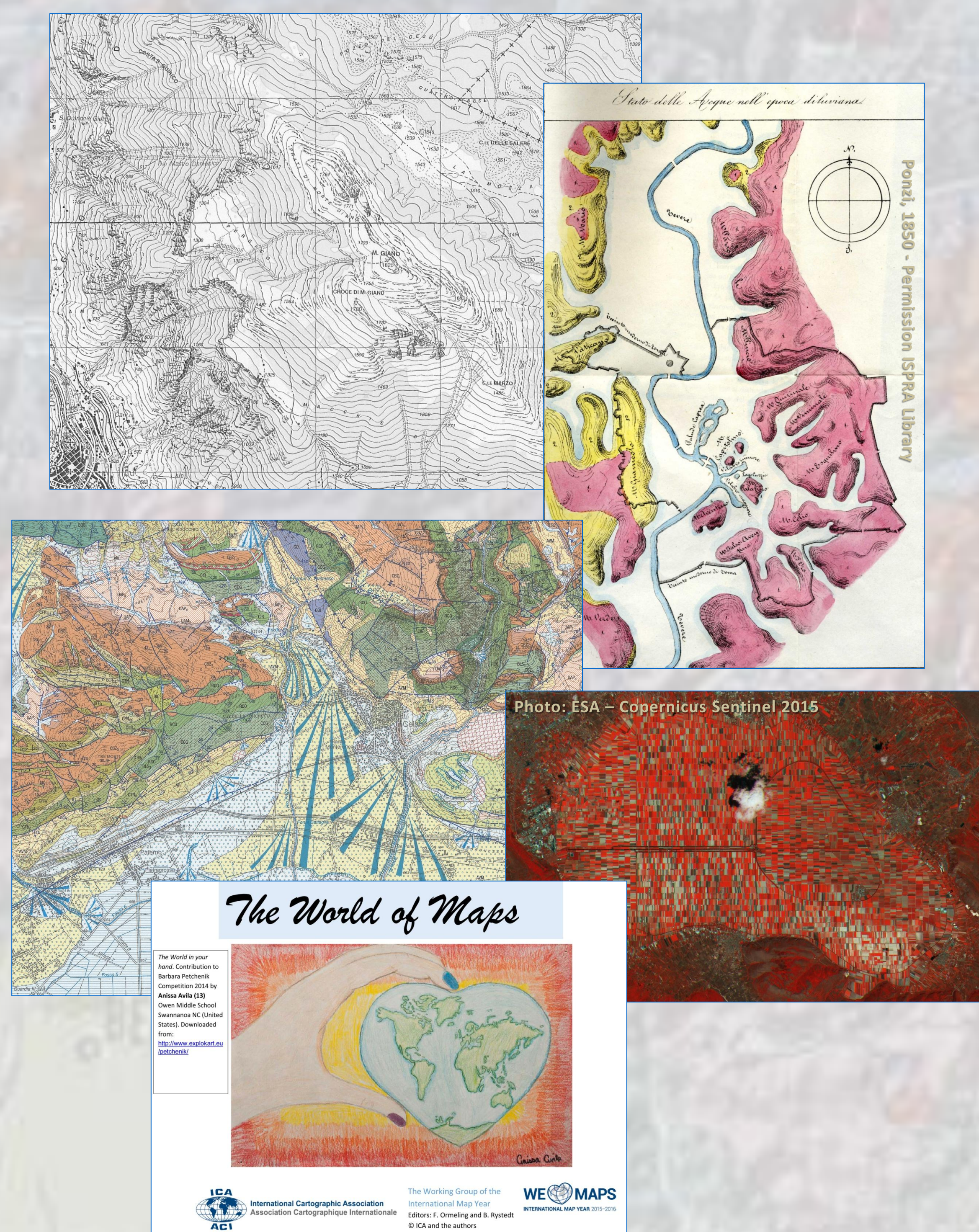




The contribute of the Geological Society of Italy to the International Map Year



The International Map Year (IMY), promoted and coordinated by the ICA (International Cartographic Association), is a worldwide celebration of maps and their unique role in our world supported by the United Nations.

The purposes of the International Map Year are ...

- making maps visible to citizens and school children in a global context,
- demonstrating how maps and atlases can be used in society,
- showing how information technology can be used in getting geographic information and producing one's own maps,
- displaying different types of maps and map production,
- showing the technical development of mapping and atlas production,
- showing the necessity of a sustainable development of geographic information infrastructures,
- increasing the recruitment of students to cartography and cartography-related disciplines.

<http://mapyear.org/about-international-map-year/>

The Geological Society of Italy (SGI - *Società Geologica Italiana*), one of the long standing geological society in the world, contributes to the IMY with an exhibition focusing on geological maps.

Geological maps show the anatomy of a territory, reporting rocks, recent deposits and their relationships, even by deducing their distribution below forests, soils, and any type of anthropic cover.

Geological maps represent a unique and international way to report geological information, and to communicate over space and time the elements that help in land management and planning worldwide .

Since geological maps are a mixing between observable and interpreted data, they should be subjected to an “ongoing maintenance” rather than to be considered a static and definitive product.

The official geological map of Italy is realized under the supervision of the *Servizio Geologico d'Italia* – ISPRA (Geological Survey of Italy). The ongoing **CARG Project**, supported by public financing, aims at producing the 1:50,000 scale geological map of the entire Italian territory. Unfortunately the project is not yet completed as the last funds were provided in the year 2000.

The exhibition shows the evolution of the geological knowledge for some selected areas of Italy by the presentation of geological maps realized in different epochs. Their practical use is also described.

It is easy to appreciate the increased detail and precision of the recent maps thanks to the continuous updating of geological databases coming from recent surface and subsurface studies, as well as the availability of new analytical methods and Information Technology tools.



WE LOVE GEOLOGICAL MAPS