

Main achievements of IGCP 369 "Comparative Evolution of Peritethyan Rift Basins"

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The goal of IGCP 369 (1994-1999) was the integrated geological-geophysical study of rift/wrench basins located along the northern and southern Tethyan margins and on the directly adjacent platforms, in an effort to improve constraints on the geodynamic evolution of the Tethys region. To this end, more than two hundred researchers from thirty-six countries actively took part in the project. Eight international meetings, nine regional meetings and five symposia at large international congresses were organized.

IGCP 369 endeavoured to provide a coherent synthesis of a vast yet heterogeneous array of data on peritethyan rift/wrench basins gathered by academic, industrial and governmental institutions in several countries. This was accomplished through the publication of two main end products, which also integrated the results of more than one-hundred original scientific publications stemming directly from the project. The two main end products are (i) a volume outlining the main characteristics of a number of peritethyan rift/wrench basins and passive margins and also including more general geological syntheses of large sectors of the peritethyan domain, and (ii) a paleotectonic atlas (Late Carboniferous - Recent) in CD-ROM format containing eight sets of regional maps, a set of summary paleotectonic maps of the whole peritethyan region, and a set of the global plate-tectonic reconstructions which were used as a framework for drafting both regional and summary maps.