Geoarchaeology in the Holocene ephemeral streams of the Huerva River (Central sector of the Ebro Basin)

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The Huerva River is a tributary of the Ebro River, located in the central sector of the Ebro basin, close to Zaragoza city. Regional geologic bedrock is made of Miocene gypsum. Along the lower stretch of the Huerva River valley Holocene morphosedimentary archives, including slopes, infilled valleys (locally named vales) and alluvial fans acquire great geoarchaeological relevance in a very sensitive geomorphic scenario. The results of different geomorphological, sedimentary, pedogenic, palynological and chronological (Luminiscence and Radiocarbon) approaches and archaeological studies allow reconstructing the paleoenvironmental evolution and human settlement since the Mesolithic to present. Two sedimentary aggradation phases in the slopes and three stages in the ephemeral streams were differentiated. The field trip shows several well studied geoarchaeological sedimentary archives. It is an excellent framework to discuss the role of the climate and the human action in the evolution of these semiarid colluvial alluvial systems.

Field trip starts and ends in Zaragoza
Maximum participants: 20 people

Cost includes field-trip guide, 4x4 van transport and lunch expenses.