

Improving Geophysical Science Link to Society during Natural Extreme Events, Especially in Developing Countries (“Networking of world seismologists”)

Joint IASPEI and ISC project

funded by the IUGG Grant Programme

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Final Report

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Introduction

The objective of this project was to update and maintain up-to-date information on the network of scientific institutions and individual seismologists and geophysicists in each country willing to serve as scientific points of contact to:

- Seismologists and Geophysicists in other countries;
- Governments;
- Charitable, Response and Relief organizations;
- Media.

Particular care is devoted to establishing and maintaining contacts in developing countries.

In addition to the IUGG funding, the project benefits from additional support in terms of staff time from the **Institute of Geophysics** and the **China Earthquake Networks Center**, both part of the **China Earthquake Administration**.

Developments under the project

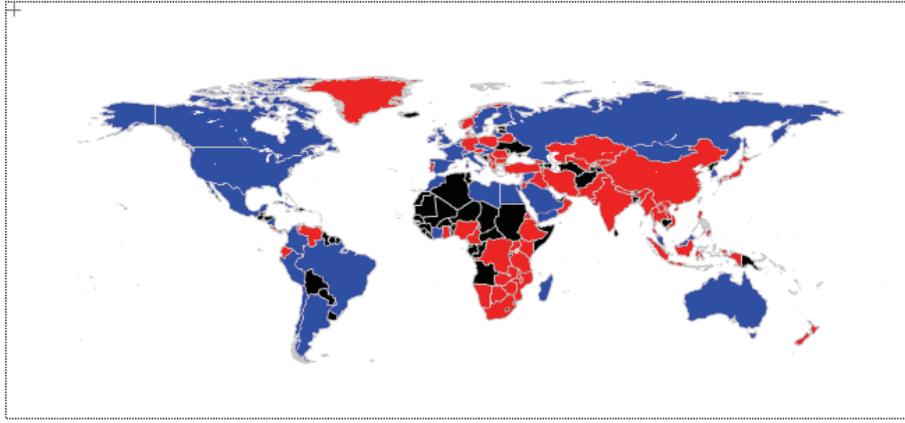
The IUGG grant enabled the IASPEI and the ISC to develop and maintain a worldwide registry of seismologists & geophysicists willing to serve as a point of contact in countries with and without affiliation to IUGG, with a particular focus on developing countries. The registry is readily available for scientific & research institutions, governmental bodies, charitable and relief organizations and media at:

www.isc.ac.uk/projects/seismocontacts

as well as at the ISC mirror site at the IRIS DMC in Seattle:

isc-mirror.iris.washington.edu/projects/seismocontacts/

The page includes the interactive map, description and clickable list of countries, where the contact information is available/not available.



Afghanistan	Albania	Algeria	Andorra	Angola	Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina	Armenia	Australia	Austria	Azerbaijan	Bahamas
Bahrain	Bangladesh	Barbados	Belarus	Belgium	Belize
Benin	Bhutan	Bolivia	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Botswana	Brazil

The webpage lists all countries worldwide in three distinct categories:

- In **RED** are countries in which institutes and individual members of staff are willing to share information and serve as a local point of contact.
- In **BLUE** are countries for which we have limited information about operating geophysical organisation(s).
- In **BLACK** are countries for which we do not currently hold any information.

For each country in “red” and “blue” category a user can obtain the details of the name of an Institution, name, title and position of particular member of staff, postal address, telephone and fax number as well as an e-mail address.

During the project we concentrated our efforts in Central and East Asia and Sub Saharan Africa – the most important areas as far as the goals of the project are concerned.

Central and East Asia

Work in this area has been done with the help from the staff of the China Earthquake Networks Center (CENC) of China Earthquake Administration (CEA).

An official appeal letter was compiled on behalf of the IASPEI, ISC and CEA and used in communications with colleagues from almost 40 countries.

At the project's start, information on 12 countries in "red" and 12 countries in "blue" categories was available. This information though was likely to be outdated and therefore required a validation and often an update.

Contact information in as many as twenty Asian countries has been updated and/or re-confirmed. The number of Asian countries with both organizational and staff contact information (red category) has increased from twelve to eighteen, where four of them moved from black to red category.

Sub Saharan Africa

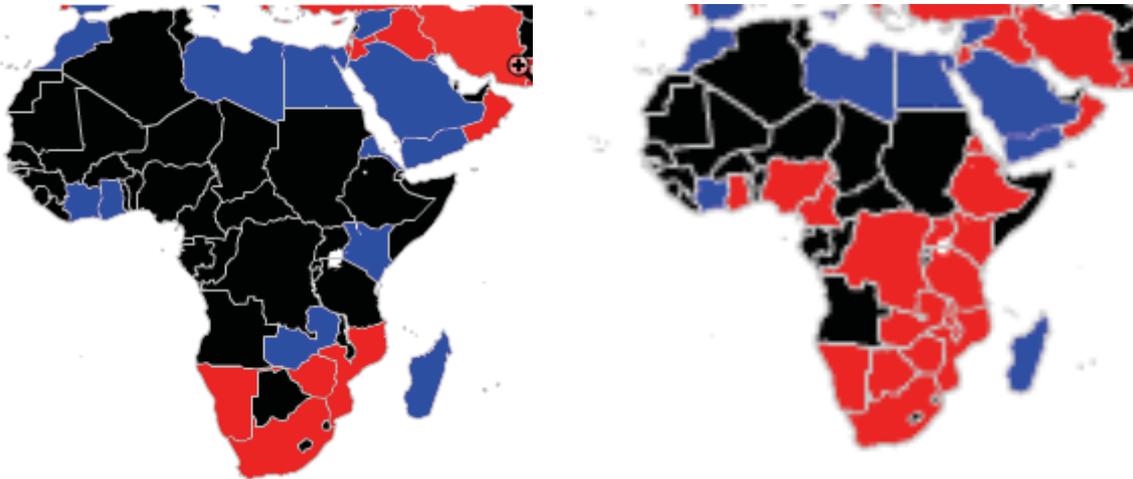
At the beginning of the project information on specific members of staff was available in just four countries (red) and information on operating institutions was additionally available in further six countries (blue).

As a result of a similar campaign based on the efforts of an ISC staff member (originally from Africa), the situation improved and as many as fifteen countries now fall in the "red" category and further four countries belong to the "blue" category. This work was done as part of our participation in the meetings of US Array in Johannesburg, South Africa as well as the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Seismology Working Group in the Entebbe, Uganda.



Participants of the regular ESARSWG group met in Entebbe, Uganda on Nov 5-9. Right to left: Richard Wambura Ferdinand (University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania), Atalay Ayele (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia), Blessing Shumba ISC, UK), Patricia Mavazhe (Goetz Observatory, Zimbabwe), Duncan Gondwe (Geological Survey, Malawi), Abebe Albie (Institute of Geophysics, Space Science and Astronomy, Ethiopia), Gift Chafwa (Geological Survey Department, Zambia), Richard Kariuki Gichini (Department of Geology, Kenya), Geraldine Paula Babirye (Department of Geological Survey and Mines, Uganda), Bwambale Barnabas (Makerere University, Uganda) and, Peace Tumworobere (Uganda).

Two figures below allow a comparison of the state of the service before the start of the project (left) and today (right). Many more territories highlighted in red or blue can be taken as a good indication of progress in obtaining contact details in Sub Saharan Africa.



Although our main efforts were concentrated in Asia and Africa, we also were able to update some contacts in Central and South America. This was done during the AGU meetings of Americas attended by the ISC staff.

Achievements with respect to the Original Work Plan

The table below summarizes the original work plan and gives current status of each item and further details where necessary.

	Items from the original Proposal	Current Status	Details
1	Inform the community about this initiative via the IASPEI and ISC newsletters	Done	
2	Approach existing contributors to the scheme to update details	Done	Good result in Asia and Africa
3	Approach seismologists/geophysicists in other countries in search for appropriate candidates	Done	
4	Update the database schema that is going to hold relevant details	Done	
5	Improve the web-site design to make searches more versatile	Done	The webpage integrated into the new ISC website

6	Discuss options for the database and website backup in the case of unexpected loss of service	Done	As every other ISC webpage, this service is now mirrored at IRIS DMC and will remain operational in case of loss of connection at the ISC
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Project Budget & Expenditure

The original budget assumed the total of \$12,000 of which \$10,000 were to come from the IUGG grant and \$2,000 from both the IASPEI and ISC resources.

In addition, China Earthquake Administration has provided a fraction of one member of staff's time towards this project.

At the end of the project, the entire budget was spent by both the IASPEI (10%) and the ISC (90%) to cover the staff salaries as well as the office and communication expenses.

The project goals have been achieved within the originally expected budget.

Summary

- **The service is available to all interested parties from the ISC website. Links from the IASPEI website are also provided.**
- **The service is mirrored at IRIS DMC in case of a loss of connection at the ISC.**
- **Many new contacts have been obtained in Central and East Asia and Sub Saharan Africa.**
- **The project goals have been achieved on time and within the allocated budget.**
- **We thank the IUGG for providing this funding; credit to IUGG is given where possible.**
- **We thank China Earthquake Administration for providing additional staff time to this project.**
- **We intend to continue updating the service as part of the ISC operations and with the help from China Earthquake Administration.**