

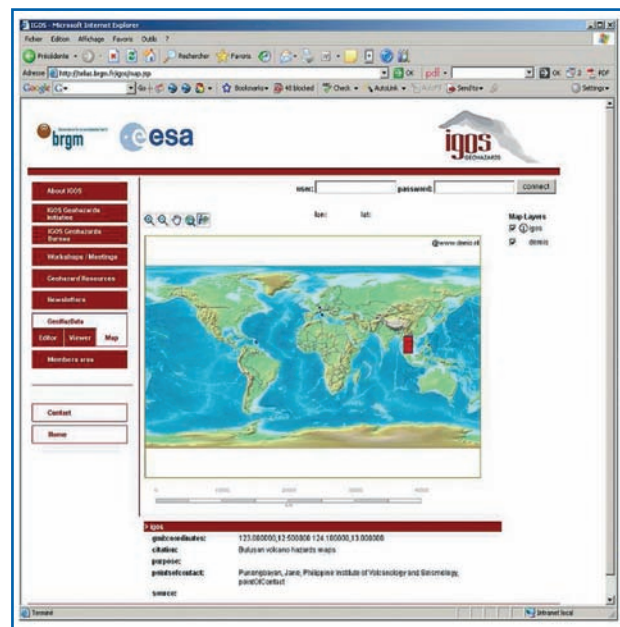
IGOS-P Geohazards Theme and Community of Practice

Description

The IGOS-P Geohazards Theme responds to the scientific and operational geospatial information needs for the prediction and monitoring of geological hazards. During the 2003-2007 period, the priority was (1) to bring together a representative Community of Practice of scientists, engineers and users concerned with Geohazards and (2) to write up to date "Geohazards Theme Reports" in 2004 and 2007, and (3) to build the demonstrator of a comprehensive system allowing to include geohazards data in the GEOSS Clearing House.

Added Value

The IGOS-P Geohazards Theme provided the core for gathering a Geohazards Community of Practice (CoP), within which Earth Observation requirements have been collected over the time frame from 2003 to 2007. It contributes to the GEOSS Clearing House through its GeoHazData system, which is based on an hazard maps inventory. GEO provides a common framework for the Theme and CoP within which means for data exchange between diverse interested groups have been put in place making data available to the wider community. Countries are contributing instruments or systems for integration into a larger earth observation system, thus improving interoperability. Particularly for developing countries, interoperability of systems is very important since they often do not participate in the definition of the systems they receive. GEO facilitates the building of bridges between the communities concerned with an efficient use of Earth Observation data in disaster prevention and mitigation.



Geohazdata web map server

Relevance to GEO

The IGOS-P Geohazards Theme contributes to the Disaster SBA. It acts as an initial kernel of the Geohazards CoP. It leads two tasks, namely DI-06-07 through which it provides a pilot OGC-compliant catalogue and web service for hazard maps inventory (GeoHazData), and DI-06-03, to which it contributes by organizing workshops and raising awareness on InSAR and advanced InSAR techniques in the Geohazards CoP. It has also actively contributed to tasks DI-06-02 through user feedback from regional workshops; DI-06-08 through the promotion of an integrated approach at meetings and conferences; DI-06-09 by helping the task group to identify geological high risk areas; DI-06-12 through organizing user workshops in Latin America and South East Asia; and AR-06-05 with GeoHazData.

Relevance to GEO

The IGOS-P Geohazards Theme contributes to the Disaster SBA. It acts as an initial kernel of the Geohazards CoP. It leads two tasks, namely DI-06-07 through which it provides a pilot OGC-compliant catalogue and web service for hazard maps inventory (GeoHazData), and DI-06-03, to which it contributes by organizing workshops and raising awareness on InSAR and advanced InSAR techniques in the Geohazards CoP. It has also actively contributed to tasks DI-06-02 through user feedback from regional workshops; DI-06-08 through the promotion of an integrated approach at meetings and conferences; DI-06-09 by helping the task group to identify geological high risk areas; DI-06-12 through organizing user workshops in Latin America and South East Asia; and AR-06-05 with GeoHazData.

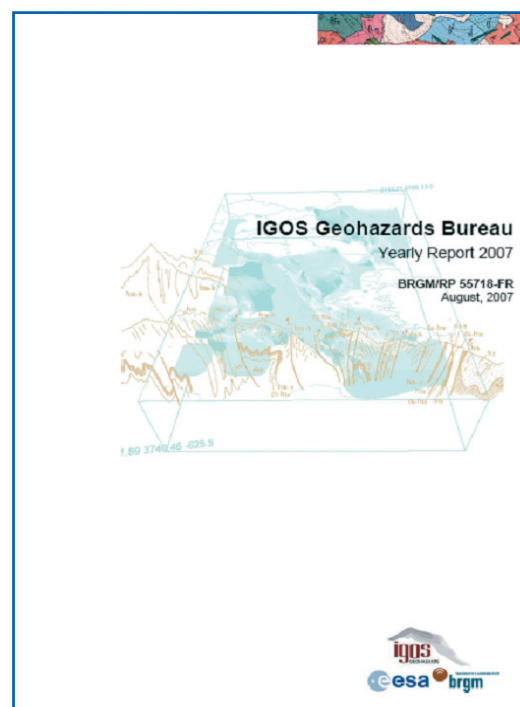
Participants

- UNESCO (co-chair)
- ESA (co-chair)
- BRGM (co-chair and Executive Bureau)
- BGS (co-chair)
- NASA
- CNES
- CEOS
- USGS
- GGOS
- WOVO FDSN
- ICL.

Current Status and Next Steps

Long term continuity relies on sustainable community building. The IGOS-P Geohazards Theme represents the diversity of scientists, engineers and users involved in Geohazards, and thus it is pivotal in community building in the Disaster SBA. The Joint Committee of the Theme includes representative of the diverse communities relevant for the SBA. International Geohazards Workshops are regularly organised to gather the main Geohazards communities on a broader basis. The 3rd International Geohazards Workshop has been organised in November 2007 as a GEO event.

In order to support this approach, a better data policy is needed. Geohazdata is a "proof of concept", that should be critically reviewed by GEO participating Countries before moving toward an operational application. The choice of a OGC compliant conceptual model for Geohazards such as GeoScienceML is needed. The actual implementation of an operational clearing house requires the commitment of national organisations in charge of Geohazards assessment in GEO Member countries and the alignment of associated resources at the national level.



Geohazards theme 2007 Report