

**Preface** 

## **Preface:** *it's a matter of available space...*



### **Preface:** ... and also of human "content"











Natural and Antropogenic Risks ... Bosnia





#### **Natural Risks: the Human factor** *Growing population in the Mediterranean area (EU 190M, PSEM 300M)*



## Seismic Risks: (one of) Geological factors

Earthquakes (M>4) in the Mediterranean area (1904 to present-day)



#### Seismic Risks: (one of) Geological factors Earthquakes (M>2.7) in the Canada (1904 to present-day)



#### Effects on human activities and structures: The 2009 L'Aquila earthquake (april 6°; M 5.8 - 6.3)



Some ingredients for a resilient society (Merging contributrions from universities, government, and the private-sector) **Partnerships** didactic activities ORGANISATIONAL FRAMEWORKS natural hazard research student mobility **Enhancing student education** strengthening international competence Expertise Integration **GEOMATICS TECHNIQUES** Field survey

# Enhancing international competence in Natural Hazards research

Università degli Studi di Torino
Université de Savoie
Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

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Simon Fraser University University of British Columbia Queen's University An example...





Bilateral Cooperation with Industrialised Countries



#### **University Partners**



Industry, territorial agencies and public research partners:

# *"SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS"*

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Resources Canada	Tale Atlevamento Europa	Regione Autonoma Valle d'Acista Geological Survey	
MDA. Nettwiker & Associates Ltd	Regione Autonoma Valle d'Aosta Dipartimiento difesa del suolo e risorse adriche	CW S DA	
TTHE Canada Inc	Regione Emilia Romagna - ARPR	Regione Emilia Romagna Regional Civil Protection Agency	
	Regione Emilia-Romagna Geological, Seismic and Soil Survey	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche Intituto di Ricerca per la Protezione Idrogeologica	
	Regione Plemonte Direzione Opere Pubbliche Settore Protezione Ove	Fondazione Montagna Sicuta - Montagne Size	
<b>IS</b> "	Fondazione Valorit 9 ottobre 1963 onius	Université de Lausanne Institute Géomatique et d'Analyse du Risque	
		Ceffet	
	Comitato Glaciologico Italiano	Spin off Università degli Studi di Torino	

SUPPORTIN

Matural

MacDonald.

# The project in brief

•Aims: to improve knowledge and skills for assessment and management of natural hazards in mountain regions and to promote cross-cultural understanding and internationalization of university curricula.

• Mobility: Earth Sciences graduate students will benefit from field training involving classic natural hazard case studies in Canada and Europe. Faculty and technicians will ensure that students' educational experiences are rich and intellectually rewarding.

•Supporting organizations: industry and public research partners will supply professional skills in advanced geotechnologies applications.







#### 4 major lines of activity:

# 1) Research and documentation for the organization and recognition of didactic activities

 Classic natural hazards case studies have to be selected and evaluated in order to be included in problem based learning units.

 Classroom-, laboratory- and fieldbased activities have to be then organized and offered to Earth Sciences and Engineering Geology students (courses and grad thesis).

• All *geoNatHaz activities* have to be accredited through the normal vetting and approval processes of the participating universities.







#### 2) Student and staff exchanges, Summer schools

#### EU: "Impacts of Climate change on natural hazards in high mountains"

	EU	Canada	
Location	Mont Blanc massif (Italy-France)	Coast and Cordillera Ranges (BC and AB, Canada)	R. Haller
Day	July 28 – July, 23	Aug. 11 – Sept. 3	activity while
Faculty	10 (+ 10 ext)	5	1 100 100 1000
Assistant	7	5	
Student	7 (+ 6)	7 (+7)	







ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL EARTH SCIENCE COMPETENCE IN NATURAL HAZARDS RESEARCH

#### **Summer school 2 - Canada: "Catastrophic rock-slope failures"**

Distinction between hazard and risk and the environmental differences between Canada and Europe have been "lively" analyzed.

Mount Meager, the second largest rock avalanche in Canada, an available, open-air laboratory for large slope instabilities





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# 3) Development of transferable technical skills and cultural competence on Natural Hazards.

• Partnerships among university, government, and private-sector scientists offered expertise and material support to didactic activities and live connections to the territory



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#### 1965 Hope Slide, catastrophic rock avalanche

- Early morning on 9 January 1965
- Largest historic landslide in Canada: 47 million cubic meters of greenstone & felsite
- Consequences: 4 fatalities, BC Highway 3 buried
- Deposit: 18 m average thickness up to maximum 79 m





#### **Some Natural Hazards in Western Canada**

• Flooding

• glacial lake outburst floods, jökulhaup cycles, dyke flood



- Volcanism
  - associated earthquakes, pyroclastic flows, lahars, ash buildup, Mazama tephra
- •Earthquakes
  - subduction zone, crustal, megathrust





#### **Mitigation Strategies**

#### Natural Hazards

- Avoidance, engineering, monitoring
- Case studies of European management methods
- Public education
- Hazard inventories
- Research





#### **Geomatics tools: LiDAR**



#### **Technical Difficulties!**

- control communication
- low battery
- rain
- sun







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#### 4) Dissemination of outcomes and implementation of sustainability of the project.

• The geoNatHaz project have been presented at scientific meetings and conferences and its activities have been publicized through the electronic and print media. • Quality improvement of services for exchange students and sustainability of geoNatHaz activities beyond the funding period have been pursued through the collection of financial and logistical contributions from bank foundations, regional governments and supporting organization.



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#### **Bilateral Cooperation**

TRANSATLANTIC EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIPS (TEP)

**EU-CANADA PROGRAMME** 

Industrialised Countries

CO-OPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH

#### geoNatHaz project:

Enhancing international Earth Science competence in Natural Hazards research by integration of traditional field-based activities and Geomatics techniques

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