

Hazard Assessment of the Caucasus

Modern seismic hazard assessment is one of the major concepts for sustainable development of the Caucasus region in general. Safety of the civilian population in the region as well as safe implementation of large economic projects must be protected. Prosperity in the Caucasus region, and its successful development, unconditionally depends on international projects aiming to integrate the region into leading economical structure. Earthquake hazard analysis is especially important for economically undeveloped countries, since the recovery period after strong earthquakes is very long. The main objective of this project is to improve the database for hazard calculations and develop modern and new common hazard maps for the region. The primary tasks to obtain our objective are defined as follows: • Improvement of the shared regional database, with quality control, to include seismological, geological, geophysical, geodetic, geotechnical and other information, as well as data on critical infrastructure. • Seismic hazard assessment based upon the newly improved database and using new methodologies. The improved database will facilitate tectonic studies, including the development of physical/mathematical models for regional seismotectonic processes. These models will incorporate active tectonic structures throughout the area, including transborder regions.

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