



ID: O1.2-736

Type: Oral

Earthquake Monitoring in Namibia with an integration of IMS Stations

Earthquake monitoring in Namibia dates back since 1900s. In 2010, Namibia's Seismological Network only had six permanent seismic stations with aging equipment that were continuously failing, making it difficult to accurately monitor earthquake activities. In 2014, a National Seismological Network expansion project commenced to completely overhaul the Network. With advent use of social media, public reports on earthquakes in Namibia spread rapidly and the Geological Survey was unable to accurately determine event parameters back then. Currently, there are ten (10) seismological stations that form the National Seismological Network of Namibia. The seismic stations are located 500km apart making it challenging to constrain micro seismicity. The recorded data is transmitted in real time via the GPRS mobile network to a centralised server in Windhoek. The tenth station, the Tsumeb station, is part of the Global Seismological Network and Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (GSN/IRIS) that contributes to worldwide earthquakes monitoring. Moreover, it is also one of the CTBTO's IMS AS067 and IS35 monitoring of worldwide nuclear explosions. The national seismic data is primarily used for earthquake hazard assessment used for civil scientific applications. Additionally, the network provides data to the International Seismological Centre in the UK for Global Seismic Hazard profiling.

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Session Classification: O1.2 The Solid Earth and its Structure

Track Classification: Theme 1. The Earth as a Complex System: T1.2 The Solid Earth and its Structure