

INTRODUCTION OF THE G-EVER AND IMPORTANCE OF GEOETHICAL ELEMENTS IN RISK MANAGEMENT

About G-EVER

The Asia-Pacific Region Global Earthquake and Volcanic Eruption Risk Management (G-EVER) is an international consortium where we collaborate and develop a system to gather information on disaster mitigation in Asia-Pacific Region (<http://g-ever.org/en/intro/index.html>). It is composed of Presidents, Vice Presidents, Management Board, Steering Committee, G-EVER Promotion Team (Secretariat), and Regular Members who are interested in the earthquake and volcanic hazards mitigation.

There are following working groups:

1. Risk assessment of large scale earthquake (Working Group 2012-2016).
2. Risk assessment of large scale volcanic eruption (Working Group 2012-2015).
3. Next generation volcanic hazard assessment (Working Group 2012-2016).

G-EVER Activity

The first Workshop on Asia-Pacific Region Global Earthquake and Volcanic Eruption Risk Management (G-EVER1) was held in Tsukuba, Japan on 22-24 February 2012, focused on the formulation of strategies to reduce the risks of disasters caused by the occurrence of earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions worldwide, and the G-EVER1 accord was approved by the participants.

In 2012 the G-EVER Consortium among the Asia-Pacific geohazard research institutes was established. The G-EVER Promotion Team of GSJ was formed, and the G-EVER Hub website was set up to promote the exchange of information and knowledge.

The 1st G-EVER International Symposium was held in Tsukuba, Japan on 11 March 2013. Its theme was Present and Future of Earthquake and Volcanic Disasters Mitigation in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The 2nd Symposium is scheduled in Sendai, Tohoku Japan, on 19-20 October 2013, jointly organized as the 1st IUGS & SCJ International Workshop on Natural Hazards. Its theme is Hazard and Risk Management in Asia-Pacific Earthquake, Tsunami, Volcanic Eruption and Landslide in Subduction Zones.

G-EVER Accord

It was approved by the participants of the G-EVER-1 in 2012, and consists of the following 10 recommendations (<http://g-ever.org/en/accord/index.html>):

1. Establish a consortium of Asia-Pacific geohazard research institutes, with the goal of enhancing collaboration, sharing resources, and making information about risk from earthquakes and volcanic eruptions freely available and understandable.
2. Promote the use of hazard information in decision-making by citizens, governments, and businesses, so our science supports mitigation actions.
3. Develop a website hub for the consortium in English and in major Asian languages, which would link to websites of allied global efforts, such as VHub, GEM Nexus, and the International Seismological Centre (ISC).
4. Establish or endorse data interchange standards and standardized analytical methods for geohazard institutes of the world to promote data sharing and comparative analyses.
5. Actively participate in related global risk reduction efforts, such as Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) Program, Global Earthquake Model (GEM), Global Volcanic Model (GVM) and their component databases like World Organization of Volcano Observatories Database (WOVOdat) and GEM Faulted Earth.
6. Promote "the borderless world of science" with trans-border hazard maps built using common data sets, and more uniform and advanced methods and software than has been possible in the past.
7. Promote exchange visits among researchers of the consortium, and encourage opportunities for graduate study in geohazards.
8. Encourage the formation of working groups for broad, multi-disciplinary, unifying themes.
9. Promote best practice training on interaction with the media, on outreach to citizens and school children on hazard preparedness, and on interaction between volcano scientists and Volcanic Ash Advisory Centres in the region.
10. Convene a G-EVER workshop every 2 years in Asia-Pacific countries in conjunction with major regional events (such as AOGS, WPGM and AGU meetings).

Geoethical Elements

The G-EVER is an important achievement on risk management, and its accord includes many valuable suggestions not only to the geoscientists but also to the various civil societies. However it is focused on scientific and technical elements and it is necessary to include geoethical elements in the accord.