

# IUGG99 XXII General Assembly Inter-Association Symposium on Geophysical Hazards, Risk Assessment, Mitigation and Warning Systems

Birmingham, United Kingdom, 22–27 July, 1999

Geophysical hazards, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, floods, droughts, tsunamis, storm surges, wildfire, tropical cyclones and extreme weather events constitute major problems in many developing and developed countries.

With the growth in world population, the increasing pressure on natural resources in newly developing areas, and the increasing cost and sophistication of engineering structures and technical installations, there is an urgent need to seek to understand the potential threats posed by natural hazards and to ascertain increasing preparedness and appropriate ways of mitigating the damaging effects.

Much has been accomplished since the onset of the UN International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), which challenged all members of the International community to take a proactive stance to reduce threats before disasters strike.

In parallel with these developments, the international scientific community has been engaged in global risk management through the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The possible hazards associated with climate change have been examined, their impacts assessed, and options for mitigation and adaptation have been considered.

The aim of this Inter-Association Symposium is to stimulate synergistic interactions between all geophysicists on common interests in the field of natural hazards, especially across disciplinary boundaries. The scope seeks through contributed presentations to recognise the

technical and scientific progress made during the last ten years in research related to any aspects of geophysical hazards to accomplishing the goals set forth for the Decade, including risk assessment, the application of known preparedness and mitigation approaches, and the development and use of scientific and engineering knowledge to improve warning systems, the disaster preparedness and mitigation in practise. In order to set the stage for this symposium, a series of invited keynote lectures will be presented on July 22 to evaluate the state-of-the-science in geophysical hazards and risks.

## Abstract submission

The deadline for submission of abstracts (English or French) is 15 January, 1999.

Instructions for abstract submission and format can be found at the IUCiG website: <http://www.bham.ac.uk/IUGG99/> or by writing to any of the co-convenors listed below. Please specify the symposium code as 'JSP23' and the symposium title as shown above.

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