Europe on the Agenda
Catalogue of FP7 European Research Projects at the GFZ

GFZ Project Bureau | Contact: gpb@gfz-potsdam.de
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Coordinated Projects
ISONOSE

Project reference: 608069
Funded under: FP7-PEOPLE

ISOTOPIC TOOLS AS NOVEL SENSORS OF EARTH SURFACE RESOURCES

From 2014-03-01 to 2018-02-28, ongoing project

Project details

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Coordinated in: Germany

Objective

"Soil, water, and precious metals are major natural resources present at the Earth’s terrestrial surface and their efficient management is essential for future sustainable development. Their availability is regulated by massive biogeochemical transformations that take place as the chemical elements move from rock to soil, into plants, through ground water, into river water, and into ore deposits. These precious resources are currently being exploited to an extent that is unprecedented in the history of our planet. We will make use of recent technological advances, in the form of novel mass-spectrometric methods, that have the as-yet unrealised capacity to make fundamental advances in understanding the formation of these resources. The understanding developed with these new tools will ultimately guide the sustainable exploitation of Earth surface environments. We will train young researchers in these ISOtopic tools as NOvel Sensors of Earth surface resources (IsoNose) through this European Initial Training Network. Long-term collaboration to train this new generation of scientists will be initiated by instrument manufacturers, academic specialists in method development and applications, private sector participants from the environmental, material certification, and metal ore resources fields. The researchers will use IsoNose as a platform to lead this emerging field into new areas, including the geosciences, environmental forensics, biomedical sciences, and mineral resource prospecting."

Coordinator

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Framework to integrate Space-based and in-situ sENSing for dynamic vulnerability and recovery Monitoring

From 2013-01-01 to 2014-12-31, closed project | SENSUM Website

Project details

| Total cost: | Topic(s): |
| EUR 2 439 074,6 | SPA.2012.1.1-04 - Support to emergency response management |
| EU contribution: | Call for proposal: |
| EUR 1 931 683 | FP7-SPACE-2012-1 |
| Coordinated in: | Funding scheme: |
| Germany | CP-FP - Small or medium-scale focused research project |

Objective

"SENSUM will deliver innovative methodologies and software tools for dynamic, multi-resolution monitoring of pre-disaster vulnerability and preparedness and post-disaster recovery planning and monitoring, based on current and future space-based products and a novel approach to in-situ observation for data rich and data poor countries. For this project, earthquake and landslide related vulnerability indicators are considered through test-cases in and outside Europe. The project responds to the urgent need to monitor and map time-dependent hazard and vulnerability, by triangulating space-based and in-situ data-collection, according to the type and extent of the natural hazard. The project will analyse the data needs of the end users through the three civil protection partners.

A novel sampling framework will be developed that guides the in-situ data collection and integration process. Novel in-situ data collection tools (e.g. omni-directional imaging) will be included. Advanced analysis and processing of current and future space-based products will enhance the approach. Uncertainties will be fully considered. Soon-to-be-released space products such as DLR Global Urban Footprint will be validated and their integration with the proposed methodologies explored. Data needs for post-disaster recovery will be addressed within the same framework, resulting in a comprehensive methodological solution to the monitoring of time-varying indicators at multiple spatial scales throughout the disaster cycle.

The consortium of 8 prominent scientific institutions and highly skilled SMEs has considerable experience in their respective fields. Many partners currently collaborate on the Global Earthquake Model Inventory Data Collection Tool (GEM IDCT). The ultimate goal is to produce a multi-resolution time varying indicator monitoring framework that applies to the whole disaster cycle. The framework is intended to become the de-facto standard for future mapping of vulnerabilities."

Related information

- Result In Brief
  - 'Eyes' in the sky protect lives on Earth

- Report Summaries
  - Periodic Report Summary 1 - SENSUM (Framework to integrate Space-based and in-situ sENSing for dynamic vUlnenerability and recovery Monitoring)
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Scientific Research

Last updated on 2015-03-11
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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Geothermal Engineering Integrating Mitigation of Induced Seismicity in Reservoirs

From 2010-01-01 to 2013-06-30, closed project

Objective

"The project contributes to the improvement of the concept of Enhanced Geothermal Systems by investigating the role of induced seismicity, which is twofold: (i) an instrument to image fluid pathways induced by hydraulic stimulation treatments, which has been done to some extent in previous projects; and (ii) an implication of such treatments to potential seismic hazards. The mitigation of induced seismicity to an acceptable level is the major intent of this project. For this purpose, we set as our goals (1) to understand why seismicity is induced in some cases but not in others; (2) to determine the potential hazards depending on geological setting and geographical location; (3) to work out licensing and monitoring guidelines for local authorities, which should include a definition of what level of ground motion is acceptable; and (4) to develop strategies to fulfill the task of the stimulation and improve the hydraulic properties of the geothermal reservoir without producing large magnitude events. To accomplish the project goals a high quality database of case studies will be assembled. This will include data on seismicity and ground motion, geomechanics, reservoir characteristics, injection/production, and surface deformation, as well as information on the local stress field and local geology. The interpretation will be based on data from the sites: Soultz-sous-Forêts (France), Basel (Switzerland), Groß Schönebeck (Germany), KTB (Germany), Larderello/Latera (Italy), Campi Flegrei (Italy), Hengill, Krafla, Reykjanes (Iceland), Groningen (Netherlands), and others (Berlin, El Salvador; The Geysers, USA). The GEISER-project will overcome shortcomings of previous work by including model based forecast of stimulation and/or production induced seismicity. Developing soft stimulation strategies and guidelines on how to react on induced seismicity will support the acceptance of geothermal applications."

Related information

- Using Earth’s heat to produce electricity
- Final Report Summary - GEISER (Geothermal Engineering Integrating Mitigation of Induced Seismicity in Reservoirs)
- Periodic Report Summary - GEISER (Geothermal Engineering Integrating Mitigation of Induced Seismicity in Reservoirs)
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Subjects

Renewable Sources of Energy

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TRIDEC
Project reference: 258723
Funded under: FP7-ICT

Collaborative, Complex and Critical Decision-Support in Evolving Crises

From 2010-09-01 to 2013-10-31

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TRIDEC focuses on new technologies for real-time intelligent information management in collaborative, complex critical decision processes in earth management. Key challenge is the construction of a communication infrastructure of interoperable services through which intelligent management of dynamically increasing volumes and dimensionality of information and data is efficiently supported; where groups of decision makers collaborate and respond quickly in a decision-support environment.

The research and development objectives include the design and implementation of a robust and scalable service infrastructure supporting the integration and utilisation of existing resources with accelerated generation of large volume of data. These include sensor systems, geo-information repositories, simulation- and data-fusion-tools. A knowledge-based service framework is deployed for context information and intelligent information management with flexible orchestration of system resources. An adaptive framework for collaborative decision making is enabled with new functions for the support of complex business processes.

TRIDEC will be demonstrated within two scenarios. Both involve intelligent management of large volumes of data for critical decision-support. One concerns a large group of experts working collaboratively in crisis centres and government agencies using sensor networks. Their goal is to make critical decisions and save lives, infrastructural and industrial facilities in evolving tsunami crises. The other concerns a large group of consulting engineers and financial analysts from energy companies working collaboratively in sub-surface drilling operations. Their common objective is to monitor drilling operations in real-time using sensor networks, optimising drilling processes and critically detecting unusual trends of drilling systems functions. This prevents operational delays, financial losses, and environmental accidents and assures staff safety in drilling rigs.

Objective

TRIDEC focuses on new technologies for real-time intelligent information management in collaborative, complex critical decision processes in earth management. Key challenge is the construction of a communication infrastructure of interoperable services through which intelligent management of dynamically increasing volumes and dimensionality of information and data is efficiently supported; where groups of decision makers collaborate and respond quickly in a decision-support environment. The research and development objectives include the design and implementation of a robust and scalable service infrastructure supporting the integration and utilisation of existing resources with accelerated generation of large volume of data. These include sensor systems, geo-information repositories, simulation- and data-fusion-tools. A knowledge-based service framework is deployed for context information and intelligent information management with flexible orchestration of system resources. An adaptive framework for collaborative decision making is enabled with new functions for the support of complex business processes. TRIDEC will be demonstrated within two scenarios. Both involve intelligent management of large volumes of data for critical decision-support. One concerns a large group of experts working collaboratively in crisis centres and government agencies using sensor networks. Their goal is to make critical decisions and save lives, infrastructural and industrial facilities in evolving tsunami crises. The other concerns a large group of consulting engineers and financial analysts...
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**Related information**

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Information and Media - Innovation and Technology Transfer

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Retrieved on 2015-11-18
**MATRIX**  
**Project reference:** 265138  
**Funded under:** FP7-ENVIRONMENT

New Multi-HAzard and MulTi-RIsK Assessment MethodS for Europe

**From** 2010-10-01 to 2013-12-31, closed project

**Objective**

"Across Europe, people suffer losses not just from single hazards, but also from multiple events in combination. In both their occurrence and their consequences, different hazards are often causally related. Classes of interactions include triggered events, cascade effects, and rapid increases of vulnerability during successive hazards. Effective and efficient risk reduction, therefore, often needs to rest on a place-based synoptic view.  
MATRIX will tackle multiple natural hazards and risks in a common theoretical framework. It will integrate new methods for multi-type assessment, accounting for risk comparability, cascading hazards, and time-dependent vulnerability. MATRIX will identify the conditions under which the synoptic view provides significantly different and better results—or potentially worse results—than established methods for single-type hazard and risk analysis. Three test cases (Naples, Cologne and the French West Indies), and a "virtual city" will provide MATRIX with all characteristic multi-hazard and multi-risk scenarios. The MATRIX IT-architecture for performing, analysing and visualising relevant scenarios will generate tools to support cost-effective mitigation and adaptation in multi-risk environments.  
MATRIX will build extensively on the most recent research on single hazard and risk methodologies carried out (or ongoing) in many national and international research projects, particularly those supported by DG Research of the European Commission. The MATRIX consortium draws together a wide range of expertise related to many of the most important hazards for Europe (earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, wildfires, winter storms, and both fluvial and coastal floods), as well as expertise on risk governance and decision-making. With ten leading research institutions (nine European and one Canadian), we also include end-user partners: from industry, and from the European National Platforms for Disaster Reduction."

**Related information**

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documents and publications


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CO2 Site Closure Assessment Research

From 2011-01-01 to 2013-12-31, closed project

**Project details**

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<td>Germany</td>
<td>CP - Collaborative project (generic)</td>
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**Objective**

"CO2CARE aims to support the large scale demonstration of CCS technology by addressing the research requirements of CO2 storage site abandonment. It will deliver technologies and procedures for abandonment and post-closure safety, satisfying the regulatory requirements for transfer of responsibility. The project will focus on three key areas: well abandonment and long-term integrity; reservoir management and prediction from closure to the long-term; risk management methodologies for long-term safety. Objectives will be achieved via integrated laboratory research, field experiments and state-of-the-art numerical modelling, supported by literature review and data from a rich portfolio of real storage sites, covering a wide range of geological and geographical settings.

CO2CARE will develop plugging techniques to ensure long-term well integrity; study the factors critical to long-term site safety; develop monitoring methods for leakage detection; investigate and develop remediation technologies. Predictive modelling approaches will be assessed for their ability to help define acceptance criteria. Risk management procedures and tools to assess post-closure system performance will be developed. Integrating these, the technical criteria necessary to assess whether a site meets the high level requirements for transfer of responsibility defined by the EU Directive will be established.

The technologies developed will be implemented at the Ketzin site and dry-run applications for site abandonment will be developed for hypothetical closure scenarios at Sleipner and K12-B. Participation of partners from the US, Canada, Japan and Australia and data obtained from current and closed sites will add to the field monitoring database and place the results of CO2CARE in a world-wide perspective.

Research findings will be presented as best-practice guidelines. Dissemination strategy will deliver results to a wide range of international stakeholders and the general public."

**Related information**

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<th>Report Summaries</th>
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<td>◆ Final Report Summary - CO2CARE (CO2 Site Closure Assessment Research)</td>
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**Documents and Publications**

- Periodic Report - CO2CARE (CO2 site closure assessment research)

---

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Project reference: 326115
Funded under: FP7-PEOPLE

Global tectonics with realistic lithospheric rheology

From 2013-06-01 to 2016-05-31, ongoing project

Project details

| Total cost: | EUR 260 608.2 |
| EU contribution: | EUR 260 608.2 |
| Coordinated in: | Germany |

| Topic(s): | FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IOF - Marie Curie Action: "International Outgoing Fellowships for Career Development" |
| Call for proposal: | FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IOF |
| Funding scheme: | MC-IOF - International Outgoing Fellowships (IOF) |

Objective

"Plate tectonics is the unifying theory of earth sciences and the building ground for geology and geodynamics. This proposal addresses the fundamental question how interaction between Earth's tectonic plates and its deep interior affects the surface evolution of our planet, i.e. its plate motions, crustal stress field and topography at present-day and in the past.

The key approach is to develop a hybrid numerical model by combining an outstanding program for lithosphere dynamics that features realistic elasto-visco-plastic rheology (SLIM3D) with one of the worlds most effective mantle convection codes (TERRA). The hybrid model will be able to calculate both horizontal and vertical plate movements as well as the global stress field with unprecedented accuracy. It will be used to understand the forces that shape present-day Earth and to unravel the cause of the global plate-tectonic rearrangement event that took place 50 My ago. Heavily relying on geological observables, this project will provide new, self-consistent, numerical models of Earth's dynamics with strong relevance not only for the broad geodynamic community but also for other geoscientific topics like sedimentary basin evolution, petrology and crustal stress field.

The study combines the expertise of two excellent groups, namely Dietmar Müller's EarthByte Group (University of Sydney) that is specialised in global scale integration and interpretation of exhaustive geological and geophysical data sets and the Geodynamic Modelling Group of Stephan Sobolev (GFZ-Potsdam) that stands for first-class numerical simulation with a strong focus on realistic physical properties of Earth materials. The project will enable the fellow to severely widen his numerical and geoscientific background while working at an internationally renowned institution. He will transfer the acquired knowledge as well as the unprecedented software product to Europe and the GFZ-Potsdam."
Coordinator

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Subjects

Life Sciences

Last updated on 2015-03-11
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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Objective

"Dikes and sills are large sheet-like intrusions transporting and storing magma in the Earth’s crust. When propagating, they generate seismicity and deformation and may lead to volcanic eruption. The physics of magma-filled structures is similar to that of any fluid-filled reservoir, such as oil fields and CO2 reservoirs created by sequestration. This project aims to address old and new unresolved challenging questions related to dike propagation, sill emplacement and in general to the dynamics of fluid- and gas-filled reservoirs. I propose to focus on crustal deformation, induced seismicity and external stress fields to study the signals dikes and sills produce, how they grow and why they reactivate after years of non-detected activity. I will combine experimental, numerical and analytical techniques, in close cooperation with volcano observatories providing us with the data necessary to validate our models. In the lab, I will simulate magma propagation injecting fluid into solidified gelatin. I will also contribute to a project, currently under evaluation, on the monitoring of a CO2 sequestration site. At the same time, I will address theoretical aspects, extending static models to dynamic cases and eventually developing a comprehensive picture of the multi-faceted interaction between external stress field, magma and rock properties, crustal deformation and seismicity. I also plan, besides presenting my team's work in the major national and international geophysical conferences, to produce, with technical support from the media services of DKRZ (Deutsches Klimarechenzentrum), an audiovisual teaching DVD illustrating scientific advances and unresolved issues in magma dynamics, in the prediction of eruptive activity and in the physics of reservoirs."

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**To know more**

http://erc.europa.eu/

**Subjects**

Environmental Protection - Scientific Research

**Last updated on** 2015-03-10
**Retrieved on** 2015-11-18


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Participation as Partner
Integrated Methods for Advanced Geothermal Exploration

From 2013-11-01 to 2017-10-31, ongoing project

Project details

| Total cost: | Topic(s): |
| EUR 13 304 043,01 | ENERGY.2013.2.4.1 - Exploration and assessment of geothermal reservoirs |

| EU contribution: | Call for proposal: |
| EUR 10 051 044,75 | FP7-ENERGY-2013-1 |

| Coordinated in: | Funding scheme: |
| Netherlands | CP - Collaborative project (generic) |

Objective

"The IMAGE project will develop a reliable science based exploration and assessment method to ""IMAGE"" geothermal reservoirs using an interdisciplinary approach based on three general pillars:

1 Understanding the processes and properties that control the spatial distribution of critical exploration parameters at European to local scales. The focus will be on prediction of temperatures, in-situ stresses, fracture permeability and hazards which can be deduced from field analogues, public datasets, predictive models and remote constraints. It provides rock property catalogues for 2 and 3.

2 Improving well-established exploration techniques for imaging and detection beyond the current state of the art and testing of novel geological, geophysical and geochemical methods to provide reliable information on critical subsurface exploration parameters. Methods include a) geophysical techniques such as ambient seismic noise correlation and magnetotellurics with improved noise filtering, b) fibre-optic down-hole logging tools to assess subsurface structure, temperature and physical rock properties, and c) the development of new tracers and geothermometers.

3 Demonstration of the added value of an integrated and multidisciplinary approach for site characterization and well-siting, based on conceptual advances, improved models/parameters and exploration techniques developed in 1 and 2. Further, it provides recommendations for a standardized European protocol for resource assessment and supporting models.

The IMAGE consortium comprises the leading European geothermal research institutes and industry partners who will perform testing and validation of the new methods at existing geothermal sites owned by the industry partners, both in high temperature magmatic, including supercritical, and in basement/deep sedimentary systems. Application of the methods as part of exploration in newly developed fields will provide direct transfer from the research to the demonstration stage."

Related information

Report Summaries

- Periodic Report Summary 1 - IMAGE (Integrated Methods for Advanced Geothermal Exploration)
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Subjects
Energy Saving - Energy Storage and Energy Transport

Last updated on 2015-03-11
Retrieved on 2015-11-18
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IMPACTS

Project reference: 308809
Funded under: FP7-ENERGY

The impact of the quality of CO2 on transport and storage behaviour

From 2013-01-01 to 2015-12-31, ongoing project

Project details

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<td>CP - Collaborative project (generic)</td>
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Objective

"IMPACTS - The impact of the quality of CO2 on transport and storage behaviour will underpin the realisation of the EU CCS European Industrial Initiative implementation plan by developing knowledge and technology needed for Carbon Dioxide Capture, Transport and Storage (CCS) pilots and large-scale demonstrations. IMPACTS is linked to demonstration projects, and will therefore benefit from realistic data, adequate framework conditions and relevant cases provided by the projects.

The objective of IMPACTS is to develop the CO2 quality knowledge base required for defining recommendations to ensure safe and reliable design, construction and operation of CO2 pipelines and injection equipment, and safe long-term geological storage of CO2. This will support the objectives of the Innovation Union and the competitiveness of the European CCS industry.

The work will combine experimental and modelling work and, among others, the following scientific and technological objectives will be pursued:

- To quantify fundamental properties of relevant CO2 mixtures. This includes phase behaviour, thermodynamics, fluid flow and chemical reactions.
- To reveal the impacts of relevant impurities in the CO2 stream on the design and operation of the transport and storage infrastructure through techno-economic assessments.
- To derive CO2 quality issues while considering integrity of the whole CCS chain.
- To provide recommendations for optimized CO2 quality on a case-by-case basis in the form of tolerance levels, mixing protocols and material selection.
- To build knowledge critical for implementation of optimized safe and cost-efficient transport and storage of CO2."

Related information

- Periodic Report Summary 1 - IMPACTS (The impact of the quality of CO2 on transport and storage behaviour)
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EU contribution: EUR 12 875

Subjects

Scientific Research

Last updated on 2015-03-11
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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Costs of Natural Hazards

From 2010-02-01 to 2012-01-31, closed project

Project details

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<td>Germany</td>
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Objective

"Cost assessments of damages of natural hazards supply crucial information to policy development in the fields of natural hazard management and adaptation planning to climate change. There exists significant diversity in methodological approaches and terminology in cost assessments of different natural hazards and in different impacted sectors. ConHaz provides insight into cost assessment methods, which is needed for an integrated planning and overall budgeting, and to prioritise policies. To strengthen the role of cost assessments in natural hazard management and adaptation planning, existing approaches and best practices as well as knowledge gaps are identified. ConHaz has three key objectives. The first objective is to compile state-of-the-art methods and terminology as used in European case studies, taking a comprehensive perspective on the costs of natural that includes droughts, floods, storms, and alpine hazards. ConHaz also considers various impacted economic sectors such as housing, industry and transport, and non-economic sectors such as health and nature. It will consider single and multi-hazards, leading to direct, indirect and intangible costs. ConHaz moreover looks at costs and benefits of risk-prevention and emergency response policies. The second objective of ConHaz is to evaluate the compiled methods. The analysis addresses theoretical issues, such as the principal assumptions that underlie economic valuation of damage types, as well as practical issues, such as the qualifications needed for data collection and quality assurance. ConHaz also looks at the reliability of the end result by considering the accuracy of cost predictions and best-practice-methods of validation. A central issue of the evaluation is to compare available methods with end-user needs. The third objective of ConHaz is to synthesize the results and give recommendations according to current best practice as well as to resulting research needs."

Related information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result In Brief</th>
<th>The cost of a natural disaster</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Report Summaries</td>
<td>Final Report Summary - CONHAZ (Costs of Natural Hazards)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Periodic Report Summary 1 - CONHAZ (Costs of Natural Hazards)</td>
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Subjects
Environmental Protection

Last updated on 2015-03-10
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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TOPOMOD
Project reference: 264517
Funded under: FP7-PEOPLE

Sculpting the Earth’s topography: insights from modelling deep–surface processes

From 2011-01-01 to 2014-12-31, closed project

Project details

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Objective

"TOPOMOD is a training project designed for a team of early-stage and experienced researchers to investigate and model the origin and evolution of topography of the continents over a wide range of spatial and temporal scales and using a multi-disciplinary approach, coupling geophysics, geochemistry, tectonics and structural geology with advanced geodynamic modeling.

TOPOMOD involves 8 European research teams internationally recognized for their excellence in complementary fields of Earth Sciences, to which are associated 1 research institution, 3 high-technology enterprises, and 1-2 large multinational oil and gas companies. This unique network places emphasis in experience-based training through 15 cross-disciplinary research projects that combine case studies in well-chosen target areas from the Mediterranean, the Middle and Far East, west Africa, and South America, with new developments in tectonics, mineral physics, petrology, geochemistry, seismology, structural geology and geodynamic modeling from the deep mantle to the surface. These multidisciplinary projects altogether aim to answer a key question in earth Sciences: how deep and surface processes interact to shape and control the evolution of topography in our planet. Topography influences society, not only as a result of slow landscape changes but also in terms of geo-hazard and environmental risks.

TOPOMOD will provide to 13 early-stage researchers (ESRs) and 2 experienced researchers (ERs): i) state-of-the-art concepts and leading-edge research techniques that are essential to study the behavior of complex natural systems, ii) a strong career management skills with practical courses and activities; iii) solid professional connections with industry; iv) a socially-oriented skill on environmental risks management.

TOPOMOD network will create an internationally recognized leading European platform on advanced geodynamic modeling."

Related information

Report Summaries

- Final Report Summary - TOPOMOD (Sculpting the Earth’s topography: insights from modelling deep–surface processes)
- Periodic Report Summary 2 - TOPOMOD (Sculpting the Earth’s topography: insights from modelling deep–surface processes)
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Subjects

Education and Training - Network technologies

Last updated on 2015-03-10
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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Zooming In between Plates: deciphering the nature of the plate interface in subduction zones

From 2013-10-01 to 2017-09-30, ongoing project

Objective

"Subduction zones play a fundamental role in our daily life. Half of the world population lives on top or nearby one of them, in coastal areas repeatedly devastated by large earthquakes, tsunamis or volcanic eruptions. Giant earthquakes occurring on subduction zone mega-thrusts (Mw close to 9 or larger) are indeed amongst the deadliest natural hazards. During the last decade, very large earthquakes took many lives (Sumatra, Chile, Japan) and, according to the World Bank, over 200 billion € for the 2011 Japan earthquake. These dramatic phenomena are fundamentally controlled by the mechanical coupling and global material transfer at and across subduction zone inter-plate boundaries, between the down-going subducting plate and the overriding plate. Stresses and energy release via earthquakes together with fluid-mediated mass transfer are indeed highly focused on the plate interface, where they interact on a wide range of spatial and temporal scales, both at short- (10^-4 yr) and longer time-scales (10^6 yr). However, despite its social and economic impact, the nature, structure and properties of this plate interface are still largely unknown, calling for a thorough Zoom In between the Plates (ZIP). ZIP represents a real challenge for a new generation of geoscientists and requires innovative, high-end, cross-disciplinary scientific and technologic training to provide them with the skills and strength to tackle such problems, make major contributions, and undertake an academic or industrial career on managing geohazards. This scientific effort is mandatory for risk assessment, to enhance the reliability of early-warning systems and help reduce human loss and economic costs. Educational outreach in vulnerable countries is also crucial to explain the seismic, tectonic and tsunamic processes both to politics and populations."

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EU contribution: EUR 278 015,75
Subjects

Life Sciences

Last updated on 2015-03-11
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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**SITechar**

**Project reference:** 256705  
**Funded under:** FP7-ENERGY

---

**Characterisation of European CO2 storage**

**From** 2011-01-01 to 2013-12-31, closed project

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**Project details**

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**Objective**

"SiteChar will facilitate the implementation of CO2 storage in Europe by improving and extending standard site characterisation workflows, and by establishing the feasibility of CO2 storage on representative potential CO2 complexes suitable for development in the near term. Reasonable estimates of the theoretical capacities of storage sites have been undertaken in previous studies. We will develop a workflow to undertake site characterisation, assessment of risks and development of monitoring plans necessary to reach the final stage of licensing. We will perform detailed site-specific techno-economic analyses and evaluate injection strategies, based on credible and realistic sources of CO2. We will undertake in-depth activities to enhance public awareness.

The SiteChar workflow will be tested at a range of onshore and offshore, open and structural traps and depleted hydrocarbon reservoirs, located across Europe. Site characterisation will be placed in an economic context. A key innovation will be the development of internal dry-run licence applications for 2 sites, tested by relevant regulatory authorities. This iterative process will refine the storage site characterisation workflow and identify gaps in site-specific characterisation needed to secure storage licenses under the EC Directive, as implemented in 'host' member states. In addition, we will address critical points of the workflow, such as screening of multiple options, fault geomechanics, reactive flow simulation, the presence of geological heterogeneity, trapping mechanisms, a Framework for Risk Assessment and Management and sensitivity analysis. These studies will be conducted through a strong collaboration of experienced industrial and academic research partners. SiteChar will produce practical guidelines for site characterisation and advance a portfolio of sites to a (near-) completed feasibility stage, ready for detailed front-end engineering and design."

---

**Related information**

- **Result In Brief**
  - Assessing geological sites for carbon dioxide storage

- **Report Summaries**
  - Final Report Summary - SITECHAR (Characterisation of European CO2 storage)
  - Periodic Report Summary 2 - SITECHAR (Characterisation of European CO2 storage)
  - Periodic Report Summary - SITECHAR (Characterisation of European CO2 storage)
Documents and Publications

- Periodic Report - SITECHAR (Characterisation of European CO2 storage)

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EU contribution: EUR 371,249

EU contribution: EUR 345,000

EU contribution: EUR 150,000

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Subjects

Energy Saving - Energy Storage and Energy Transport - Environmental Protection - Fossil Fuels

Last updated on 2015-06-29  
Retrieved on 2015-11-18  
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NERA

Project reference: 262330
Funded under: FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES

Network of European Research Infrastructures for Earthquake Risk Assessment and Mitigation

From 2010-11-01 to 2014-10-31, closed project

Project details

| Total cost: | EUR 12 014 028,73 |
| EU contribution: | EUR 9 000 000 |
| Coordinated in: | Switzerland |

| Topic(s): | INFRA-2010-1.1.27 - Research infrastructures for earthquake hazard. |
| Call for proposal: | FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1 |
| Funding scheme: | CP-CSA-Infra - Combination of CP and CSA |

Objective

"The overall aim of NERA is to achieve a measurable improvement and a long-term impact in the assessment and reduction of the vulnerability of constructions and citizens to earthquakes. NERA will integrate the key research infrastructures in Europe to monitor earthquakes and assess their hazard and risk, and will combine expertise in observational and strong-motion seismology, modeling, geotechnical and earthquake engineering to develop activities to improve the use of infrastructures and facilitate the access to data. NERA will ensure the provision of high-quality services, including access to earthquake data and parameters and to hazard and risk products and tools. NERA will coordinate with other EC projects (SHARE, SYNER-G) a comprehensive dissemination effort.

NERA will contribute to the OECD GEM program and to the EPOS ESFRI infrastructure."

Related information

Result In Brief

- New earthquake monitoring services

Report Summaries

- Final Report Summary - NERA (Network of European Research Infrastructures for Earthquake Risk Assessment and Mitigation)
- Periodic Report Summary 2 - NERA (Network of European Research Infrastructures for Earthquake Risk Assessment and Mitigation)
- Periodic Report Summary 3 - NERA (Network of European Research Infrastructures for Earthquake Risk Assessment and Mitigation)
- Periodic Report Summary - NERA (Network of European research infrastructures for earthquake risk assessment and mitigation)

Documents and Publications

- Periodic Report - NERA (Network of European research infrastructures for earthquake risk assessment and mitigation)
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EU contribution: EUR 185 000
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Subjects

Earth Sciences - Scientific Research
DEWFORA

Project reference: 265454
Funded under: FP7-ENVIRONMENT

Improved Drought Early Warning and FORecasting to strengthen preparedness and adaptation to droughts in Africa

From 2011-01-01 to 2013-12-31, closed project

Project details

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Objective

“The principal aim of the DEWFORA proposal is to develop a framework for the provision of early warning and response to mitigate the impact of droughts in Africa. The proposal has been built to achieve three key targets:
1. Improved monitoring: by improving knowledge on drought forecasting, warning and mitigation, and advancing the understanding of climate related vulnerability to drought – both in the current and in the projected future climate.
2. Prototype operational forecasting: by bringing advances made in the project to the pre-operational stage through development of prototype systems and piloting methods in operational drought monitoring and forecasting agencies.
3. Knowledge dissemination: through a stakeholders platform that includes national and regional drought monitoring and forecasting agencies, as well as NGO’s and IGO’s, and through capacity building programmes to help embed the knowledge gained in the community of African practitioners and researchers.

To achieve these targets, the DEWFORA consortium brings together leading research institutes and universities; institutes that excel in application of state-of-the-art science in the operational domain; operational agencies responsible for meteorological forecasting, drought monitoring and famine warning; and established knowledge networks in Africa. The consortium provides an excellent regional balance, and the skilled coordinator and several partners have worked together in (European) research projects, implementation projects and capacity building programmes, thus building efficiently on previous and ongoing projects in Europe and Africa.

The main impact of DEWFORA will be to increase the effectiveness of drought forecasting, warning and response. DEWFORA will provide guidance on how and where drought preparedness and adaptation should be targeted to contribute to increased resilience and improved effectiveness of drought mitigation measures.”

Related information

- Result In Brief
  - Forecasting and early warning of drought in Africa

- Report Summaries
  - Periodic Report Summary 2 - DEWFORA (Improved Drought Early Warning and FORecasting to strengthen preparedness and adaptation to droughts in Africa)
Periodic Report Summary - DEWFORA (Improved drought early warning and forecasting to strengthen preparedness and adaptation to droughts in Africa)

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Technology Options for Coupled Underground Coal Gasification and CO2 Capture and Storage

From 2013-11-01 to 2016-10-31, ongoing project

Objective

"The main objective of the proposed project is to develop a generic UCG-CCS site characterisation workflow, and the accompanying technologies, which would address the dilemma faced by the proponents of reactor zone CO2 storage, and offer technological solutions to source sink mismatch issues that are likely to be faced in many coalfields. This objective will be achieved through integrated research into the field based technology knowledge gaps, such as cavity progression and geomechanics, potential groundwater contamination and subsidence impacts, together with research into process engineering solutions in order to assess the role/impact of site specific factors (coal type, depth/pressure, thickness, roof and floor rock strata, hydrology) and selected reagents on the operability of a given CO2 emission mitigation option in a coalfield.

CO2 storage capacity on site for European and international UCG resources will be assessed and CO2 mitigation technologies based on end use of produced synthetic gas will be evaluated. The technology options identified will be evaluated with respect to local and full chain Life Cycle environmental impacts and costs.

The project takes a radical and holistic approach to coupled UCG-CCS, and thus the site selection criteria for the coupled process, considering different end-uses of the produced synthetic gas, covering other options beyond power generation, and will evaluate novel approaches to UCG reagent use in order to optimise the whole process. This approach aims at minimising the need for on-site CO2 storage capacity as well as maximising the economic yield of UCG through value added end products, as well as power generation, depending on the local coalfield and geological conditions."
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Energy Saving - Energy Storage and Energy Transport

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**Objective**

"In the next future, the number of GNSS will drastically increase. Not only more signals and frequencies will be available, but also the new generation of navigation satellites (GALILEO), will greatly enhance the performance of GNSS based applications, both scientific and mass-market. Current and next generation GNSS can improve and sustain GEEO applications, as well as be the enablers of novel applications. With the scope to support the GEOSS 10-year implementation plan (2005-2015) the 2010 Environment FP7 work program is launching various topics under sub-activity 6.4.1 Earth and ocean observation systems and monitoring methods for the environment and sustainable development. In line with the objectives of sub-activity 6.4.1, a coordination action promoting discipline connection, identity building and integration while defining future research, technology and policy directions is needed. GNSS for GEEO and GEOSS (Gfg2) responds to these needs addressed by work program topic: ENV.2010.4.1.3-1 Exploring GNSS applications for GEEO and GEOSS. The goals of this three-year long initiative are: 1) to consolidate a community of experts with interest to exploit GNSS for GEEO and GEOSS; 2) to explore novel applications derived from GNSS for GEEO and GEOSS while enhancing research-industry collaboration to implement these applications; 3) to identify the research and technological challenges and define the strategic vision, roadmap and policy for GNSS for GEEO and GEOSS available or under development (EU and non-EU); 4) to assess the value (in this context) of the European GNSS independent constellation (EGNOS-GALILEO); 5) to promote the public understanding of GNSS for GEEO and GEOSS research and use within the GEO community, providing support to GEO tasks. Gfg2 will achieve its objectives especially by using a working methodology based on active community interaction and events (2 summer schools, 4 workshops and a socioeconomic impact workshop)."

**Related information**

- **Result In Brief**
  - Europe’s satellite technology evolves

- **Report Summaries**
  - Final Report Summary - GFG² (GNSS for Global Environmental Earth Observation (GEEO) and GEOSS)
  - Periodic Report Summary 2 - GFG² (GNSS for Global Environmental Earth Observation (GEEO) and GEOSS)
  - Periodic Report Summary - GFG2 (GNSS for Global environmental earth observation (GEEO) and GEOSS)
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Subjects

Environmental Protection - Space and satellite research

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MARSITE

Project reference: 308417
Funded under: FP7-ENVIRONMENT

New Directions in Seismic Hazard assessment through Focused Earth Observation in the Marmara Supersite

From 2012-11-01 to 2016-04-30, ongoing project

Project details

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Objective

The recent devastating earthquakes and associated tsunamis in Japan, Indonesia, and Haiti, which killed more than half a million people, highlighted how mankind is still far away from a satisfactory level of seismic risk mitigation. Among the regions around the Mediterranean Sea for which earthquakes represent a major threat to their social and economic development, the area around the Marmara Sea, one of the most densely populated parts of Europe, is subjected to a high level of seismic hazard. For this region the MARSITE project is proposed with the aim of assessing the “state of the art” of seismic risk evaluation and management at European level. This will be the starting point to move a “step forward” towards new concepts of risk mitigation and management by long-term monitoring activities carried out both on land and at sea.

The MARSITE project aims to coordinate research groups with different scientific skills (from seismology to engineering to gas geochemistry) in a comprehensive monitoring activity developed both in the Marmara Sea and in the surrounding urban and country areas. The project plans to coordinate initiatives to collect multidisciplinary data, to be shared, interpreted and merged in consistent theoretical and practical models suitable for the implementation of good practices to move the necessary information to the end users.

Related information

- Advances in earthquake preparedness
- Periodic Report Summary 1 - MARSITE (New Directions in Seismic Hazard assessment through Focused Earth Observation in the Marmara Supersite)
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Subjects

Scientific Research

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**Strategies and tools for Real Time EArthquake RisK ReducTion**

**From** 2011-09-01 to 2014-12-31, closed project

### Project details

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### Objective

"Earthquakes are a serious threat for many European countries, particularly those around the Mediterranean Sea. In many cities exposed to high earthquake hazard, a substantial proportion of the population still lives in buildings that do not meet modern earthquake-resistant standards. Preventive actions, such as retrofitting of structures, are essential, but they are not sufficient and cannot be applied easily on a large scale. Real-time actions focussing on decreasing the physical vulnerability and exposure of populations are a viable way to reduce earthquake risk.

The primary objective of REAKT is to improve the efficiency of real-time earthquake risk mitigation methods and their capability of protecting structures, infrastructures and populations. REAKT aims to develop methodologies that will enhance the quality of information provided by earthquake forecasting, early warning and real-time vulnerability systems, as well as establishing best practices for how to use all of this information in a unified manner. In order to be used effectively, such information needs to be combined into a fully probabilistic framework, including realistic estimates of the uncertainties involved, that is suitable for decision making in real time.

The REAKT consortium draws together most of the main European institutes and research groups, in addition to major non-European institutes, that are working on different aspects of earthquake early warning and probabilistic models of operational forecasting. The project is divided into 7 scientific work packages that constitute a logical sequence from, at one end, the processes involved in earthquake generation and the physics of short-term seismic changes, to the other, the threatened people, through operational earthquake forecasting, early warning and rapid assessment of damage and vulnerability, decision making and capacity building, and the application of the developed methodologies to 12 strategic test cases."

### Related information

**Result In Brief**
- Reducing risk from earthquakes

**Report Summaries**
- Final Report Summary - REAKT (Strategies and tools for Real Time EArthquake RisK ReducTion)
- Periodic Report Summary 2 - REAKT (Strategies and tools for Real Time EArthquake RisK ReducTion)
- Periodic Report Summary - REAKT (Strategies and tools for real-time earthquake risk reduction)
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Environmental Protection

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Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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A European volcanological supersite in Iceland: a monitoring system and network for the future

From 2012-10-01 to 2016-03-31, ongoing project

Objective

"The main objectives of FUTUREVOLC are to establish an integrated volcanological monitoring procedure through European collaboration, develop new methods to evaluate volcanic crises, increase scientific understanding of magmatic processes and improve delivery of relevant information to civil protection and authorities. To reach these objectives the project combines broad European expertise in seismology, volcano deformation, volcanic gas and geochemistry, infrasound, eruption monitoring, physical volcanology, satellite studies of plumes, meteorology, ash dispersal forecasting, and civil defence. This European consortium leads the way for multi-national volcanological collaboration with the aim of mitigating the effects of major eruptions that pose cross-border hazards. Iceland is selected as a laboratory supersite area for demonstration because of (i) the relatively high rate of large eruptions with potential for long ranging effects, and (ii) Iceland's capability to produce the near full spectrum of volcano processes at its many different volcano types. Based on present monitoring networks and ongoing research, the project will bridge gaps and combine efforts for a coherent close-to-real-time evaluation of the state of Icelandic volcanoes and their unrest. The project will provide timely information on magma movements from combined interpretation of earthquake sources relocated in three-dimensional velocity models, magma sources inferred from ground and space geodetic data, and measurements of volcanic volatiles. For better response during eruptions, the project will develop operational models of magma discharge rate, contributing directly to improved forecasts of ash dispersion. They will help to minimise economic disruption on a European scale during eruptions. By integrating a Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre and a civil protection unit into the project, European citizens will benefit directly from the scientific work of FUTUREVOLC."

Related information

- Enhancing future volcano monitoring
- Periodic Report Summary 1 - FUTUREVOLC (A European volcanological supersite in Iceland: a monitoring system and network for the future)
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EU contribution: EUR 125 268.2

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Subjects
"Assessment, STrategy And Risk Reduction for Tsunamis in Europe"

From 2013-11-01 to 2016-10-31, ongoing project

**Objective**

"The NEAM (North East Atlantic, Mediterranean and Adjacent Seas) region of IOC/UNESCO is known to be exposed to tsunamis and, like other regions of the world, faces increasing levels of risk due to i) continuous development of coastal areas with critical infrastructure, and ii) year-round presence of millions of tourists.

In recent years, European researchers have greatly advanced knowledge of tsunami hazards and implementation of operational infrastructure, such as creation of a regional system of candidate tsunami-watch providers (CTWP) and national tsunami warning centers (NTWC). However, significant gaps remain and more effort is needed.

ASTARTE (Assessment STrategy And Risk for Tsunami in Europe) aims to develop a comprehensive strategy to mitigate tsunami impact in this region. To achieve this goal, an interdisciplinary consortium has been assembled. It includes all CTWPs of NEAM and expert institutions across Europe and worldwide.

ASTARTE will improve i) basic knowledge of tsunami generation and recurrence going beyond simple catalogues, with novel empirical data and new statistical analyses for assessing long-term recurrence and hazards of large events in sensitive areas of NEAM, ii) numerical techniques for tsunami simulation, with focus on real-time codes and novel statistical emulation approaches, and iii) methods for assessment of hazard, vulnerability, and risk.

ASTARTE will also provide i) guidelines for tsunami Eurocodes, ii) better tools for forecast and warning for CTWPs and NTWCs, and iii) guidelines for decision makers to increase sustainability and resilience of coastal communities. In summary, ASTARTE will develop basic scientific and technical elements allowing for a significant enhancement of the Tsunami Warning System in the NEAM region in terms of monitoring, early warning and forecast, governance and resilience.

Overall, this will lead to the goal of the European/NEAM Horizon 2020 strategy: to foster tsunami resilient communities."
Coordinator

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Subjects

Environmental Protection

Last updated on 2015-03-11
Retrieved on 2015-11-18
**Objective**

"The E-GEM project proposes to evolve the current status of GNSS Reflectometry (GNSS-R) methods for the purpose of Earth monitoring, paving the way for operational applications in the domains of ocean altimetry and scatterometry (mainly wave height and surface winds, but also soil moisture, and biomass, monitoring of ice layers). The approach of the E-GEM project is to bring together lead experts in GNSS-R technologies and experienced teams in Earth Observation domains, in order to address the data needs and requirements of GMES services and other Earth monitoring initiatives, and how can GNSS-R methods best respond to the identified challenges in these domains. A strong connection with the users basis as well as with institutional, public and private stakeholders interested in the development and usage of the technology, will also steer the project's efforts, and increase the awareness of this promising technology. Within the E-GEM project, three experimental platforms will be developed for GNSS-R data acquisition: a space-borne, an airborne and a ground instrument will acquire large amounts of data to support the development of algorithms. This data, together with the large effort put on the development and validation of algorithms and processing chains, will aim at obtaining high-resolution products for altimetry, wave height and surface winds. The expected improvements should largely result from the usage of the GPS P code (with the space- and airborne acquired signal), and Galileo's AltBOC signals. For these purposes, the E-GEM project will rely strongly on the achievements of the GNSS-R community so far - in which European teams have historically had a leading role so far - and will bring together the individual efforts and other on-going projects into a joint working platform dedicated to the development and integration of GNSS-R technologies into GMES operational services."

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Subjects

Other Technology
MED-SUV

**Project reference:** 308665

**Funded under:** FP7-ENVIRONMENT

MEDiterranean SUpersite Volcanoes

**From** 2013-06-01 to 2016-05-31, ongoing project

### Project details

| **Total cost:** | EUR 7 727 299,22 |
| **EU contribution:** | EUR 5 998 851 |
| **Coordinated in:** | Italy |

**Topic(s):**

- ENV.2012.6.4-2 - Long-term monitoring experiment in geologically active regions of Europe prone to natural hazards: the Supersite concept

**Call for proposal:**

- FP7-ENV-2012-two-stage

**Funding scheme:**

- CP - Collaborative project (generic)

### Objective

"This project will improve the consortium capacity of assessment of volcanic hazards in Supersites of Southern Italy by optimising and integrating existing and new observation/monitoring systems, by a breakthrough in understanding of volcanic processes and by increasing the effectiveness of the coordination between the scientific and end-user communities. More than 3 million of people are exposed to potential volcanic hazards in a large region in the Mediterranean Sea, where two among the largest European volcanic areas are located: Mt. Etna and Campi Flegrei/Vesuvius. This project will fully exploit the unique detailed long-term in-situ monitoring data sets available for these volcanoes and integrate with Earth Observation (EO) data, setting the basic tools for a significant step ahead in the discrimination of pre-, syn- and post-eruptive phases. The wide range of styles and intensities of volcanic phenomena observed on these volcanoes, which can be assumed as archetypes of 'closed conduit' and 'open conduit' volcano, together with the long-term multidisciplinary data sets give an exceptional opportunity to improve the understanding of a very wide spectrum of geo-hazards, as well as implementing and testing a large variety of innovative models of ground deformation and motion. Important impacts on the European industrial sector are expected, arising from a partnership integrating the scientific community and SMEs to implement together new observation/monitoring sensors/systems. Specific experiments and studies will be carried out to improve our understanding of the volcanic internal structure and dynamics, as well as to recognise signals related to impending unrest or eruption. Hazard quantitative assessment will benefit by the outcomes of these studies and by their integration into the cutting edge monitoring approaches thus leading to a step-change in hazard awareness and preparedness and leveraging the close relationship between scientists, SMEs, and end-users."

### Related information

**Report Summaries**

- Periodic Report Summary 1 - MED-SUV (MEDiterranean SUpersite Volcanoes)
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Scientific Research

Last updated on 2015-08-03
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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Remediation and mitigation of CO2 leakage

From 2014-03-01 to 2017-02-28, ongoing project

Project details

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Objective

"Safety, reliability and controllability are essential elements influencing the public perception and licensing of CO2 storage. Therefore a thorough analysis of leakage mechanisms and threats to the safety and security of storage will be the first activity in the MiReCOL project. This will form the basis for an analysis of mitigation and remediation options. Both existing (state-of-the-art) and new remediation and mitigation techniques will be investigated, including laboratory tests of sealant materials and field demonstrations at the sites of Ketzin (Germany) and Bečej (Serbia). Additional field experiments that cannot be afforded by MiReCOL only will be shared with top-ranked US and Australian partners. The approach in MiReCOL is strictly risk based, which ensures that the results of the project can feed into the regulatory process (protocols, safety regulations, guidelines). This means that the impact of each remediation and mitigation measure is assessed on all relevant risk levels. The results will be published both as handbook and as an interactive web-based tool, to inform both storage project operators and competent authorities on the options available for remediation and mitigation. The inclusion of industrial partners active in CO2 storage ensures the operational experience to assess the efficiency and impact of each measure."

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Energy Saving - Energy Storage and Energy Transport

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Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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Near-Earth Space Data Infrastructure for e-Science

From 2011-11-01 to 2015-04-30

Project details

**Total cost:**
EUR 5 888 958

**EU contribution:**
EUR 4 799 964

**Coordinated in:**
United Kingdom

**Topic(s):**
INFRA-2011-1.2.2. - Data infrastructures for e-Science

**Call for proposal:**
FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2011-2

**Funding scheme:**
CPCSA - Combined Collaborative Project and Coordination and Support Action

Objective

The ESPAS project will provide the e-infrastructure necessary to support the access to observations, the modeling and prediction of the Near-Earth Space environment. This includes the plasma and energetic particle environments that surround our planet as well as the neutral atmosphere at altitudes above 60 km. These environments are an important target for future research in areas such as space weather and Sun-climate studies. The ESPAS interface will provide access to a diverse set of databases that have been developed for the needs of different users. Thus a primary goal is to facilitate user access to heterogeneous data from multiple providers, ranging from ground-based observations acquired with multiple instruments and techniques, to data from satellite experiments, using a mixture of in-situ and remotely sensed techniques. The results of searches will be delivered in a scientist-friendly manner based on existing standards and protocols. The infrastructure will also be used as a test-bed for development of methodologies and standards for validation of models of the near-Earth environment. This will lead to validated predictions of conditions in that environment, and thus promote the transfer of space environment science products into commercial and operational applications.

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European Plate Observing System

From 2010-11-01 to 2014-10-31, closed project

Project details

| Total cost: | EURO 6 338 958,35 |
| EU contribution: | EURO 4 500 000 |
| Coordinated in: | Italy |

| Topic(s): |
| INFRA-2010-2.2.2 - EPOS (Infrastructure for the study of tectonics and Earth surface dynamics). |
| INFRA-2010-2.2.4 - ECCSEL (European Carbon Dioxide and Storage Laboratory). |

Call for proposal:
FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1

Funding scheme:
CP-CSA-Infra-PP - Construction of New Research Infrastructures - Preparatory Phase

Objective

To understand the complex Earth System requires an integrated observational strategy and infrastructure to record key diagnostic features of its dynamics. Accordingly, this infrastructure must include geographically distributed and multidisciplinary monitoring instruments and observations. The European Plate Observing System (EPOS) will meet this challenge. The proposed RI (EPOS) will create a single sustainable, permanent and distributed infrastructure, integrating land-based geophysical monitoring networks, local observatories (including permanent in-situ and volcano observatories) and experimental laboratories in Europe. EPOS will give open access to geophysical and geological data and modelling tools, enabling a step change in multidisciplinary scientific research into different fields, including seismic and volcanic hazards, environmental changes as well as energy and long-term sustainability. This will result in benefits to society.

Presently, the different European countries own a mosaic of hundreds of impressive, but separated networks, observatories, temporary deployments, labs and modelling facilities, etc... for solid earth studies. Long-term sustainability of plate observations, optimising access to, and combining a wide variety of solid Earth data and modelling tools are prerequisites to innovative research for a better understanding of the physical processes controlling earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and other catastrophic events (landslides, tsunamis) together with those controlling Earth surface dynamics (crustal response to deformation and to global change). EPOS will enable the scientific community to study the same phenomena from a multidisciplinary point of view, at different temporal and spatial scales (from laboratory to field and plate tectonic scale experiments). EPOS intends to create the prerequisites for Europe to maintain a leading role in solid Earth science research.

Related information

- New platform boosts Earth science research
- Final Report Summary - EPOS (European Plate Observing System)
- Periodic Report Summary 2 - EPOS (European Plate Observing System)
- Periodic Report Summary 3 - EPOS (European Plate Observing System)
Documents and Publications
- Periodic Report Summary - EPOS (European plate observing system)
- Periodic Report - EPOS (European plate observing system)

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Subjects

Climate change and Carbon cycle research - Earth Sciences - Scientific Research

Last updated on 2015-10-15
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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EUFAR

**Project reference:** 227159
**Funded under:** FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES

**EUROPEAN FACILITY FOR AIRBORNE RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOSCIENCE**

**From** 2008-10-01 to 2013-09-30, closed project

**Project details**

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<td>INFRA-2008-1.1.1 - Bottom-up approach: Integrating Activities in all scientific and technological fields</td>
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**Objective**

"EUFAR is the Integrating Activity for airborne research in Geo-science. It will integrate the airborne community, to ensure that researchers may have access to the most suited infrastructure they need, irrespective of the location of the infrastructure. The EUFAR consortium comprises 32 legal entities, 14 operators of airborne facilities, and 18 experts in airborne research. They contribute to 9 Networking Activities, Trans-national Access to 26 installations, and 3 Joint Research Activities. A Scientific Advisory Committee, constituted of eminent scientists, contributes to a better integration of the users with the operators to tackle new user driven developments. Transnational Access coordination aims at providing a wider and more efficient access to the infrastructures. The working group for the Future of the Fleet fosters the joint development of airborne infrastructures in terms of capacity and performance. The Expert Working Groups facilitate a wider sharing of knowledge and technologies across fields. The activity for Education and Training provides training courses to new users. The working group on Standards and Protocols contributes to better structure the way research infrastructures operate. The development of a distributed data base for airborne activities improves the access to the data collected by the aircraft. All these activities rely on an unique web portal to airborne research in Europe. The working group on the Sustainable Structure aims at promoting solutions for the long term sustainability of EUFAR. Among the JRA, one will develop and characterize airborne hygrometers, the second one will develop and implement quality layers in the processing chains of hyperspectral imagery, and the third one will develop an airborne drop spectrometer based on a new principle."

**Related information**

<table>
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<th>Result In Brief</th>
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<td>- Taking airborne research in Europe to new heights</td>
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### Report Summaries

- Final Report Summary - EUFAR (EUROPEAN FACILITY FOR AIRBORNE RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOSCIENCE)
- Periodic Report Summary 1 - EUFAR (European facility for airborne research in environmental and geoscience)
- Periodic Report Summary 2 - EUFAR (European Facility for Airborne Research in Environmental and Geoscience)
- Periodic Report Summary 3 - EUFAR (EUROPEAN FACILITY FOR AIRBORNE RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOSCIENCE)
- Periodic Report Summary 4 - EUFAR (EUROPEAN FACILITY FOR AIRBORNE RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOSCIENCE)
- Periodic Report 1 - EUFAR (European facility for airborne research in environmental and geoscience)
- Periodic Report 2 - EUFAR (European Facility for Airborne Research in Environmental and Geoscience)

### Documents and Publications

- Periodic Report 1 - EUFAR (European facility for airborne research in environmental and geoscience)
- Periodic Report 2 - EUFAR (European Facility for Airborne Research in Environmental and Geoscience)

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Subjects
Scientific Research

Last updated on 2015-10-15
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

© European Union, 2015
SHARE
Project reference: 226967
Funded under: FP7-ENVIRONMENT

Seismic Hazard Harmonization in Europe

From 2009-06-01 to 2012-11-30, closed project

Project details

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Objective

"SHARE will deliver measurable progress in all steps leading to a harmonized assessment of seismic hazard – in the definition of engineering requirements, in the collection and analysis of input data, in procedures for hazard assessment, and in engineering applications. SHARE will create a unified framework and computational infrastructure for seismic hazard assessment and produce an integrated European probabilistic seismic hazard assessment (PSHA) model and specific scenario based modeling tools. The SHARE results will deliver long-lasting structural impact in areas of societal and economic relevance, they will serve as a reference for the Eurocode 8 application, and will provide homogeneous input for the correct seismic safety assessment for critical industry, such as the energy infrastructures and the re-insurance sector. SHARE will cover the whole European territory, the Maghreb countries in the Southern Mediterranean and Turkey in the Eastern Mediterranean."

Related information

<table>
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Subjects
Environmental Protection - Evaluation - Project management methodologies

Last updated on 2015-03-09
Retrieved on 2015-11-18
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CIRCLE-2

Project reference: 249685
Funded under: FP7-ENVIRONMENT

Climate Impact Research & Response Coordination for a Larger Europe - 2nd Generation ERA-Net - Science meets Policy

From 2010-05-01 to 2014-04-30, closed project

Project details

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Objective

"Climate Change is one of the most important issues facing the world in the 21st century and challenges all four (ecological, economical, social and cultural) dimensions of sustainable development. Europe takes a leading role in the necessary response to these challenges. Severe impacts are unavoidable and European adaptation strategies must be supported by a coherent base of knowledge on its key vulnerabilities and response options. Such a base can only be generated by European, national and regional policy-relevant research. It is CIRCLE-2 ERA-Net prime objective to contribute to those efforts by aligning and networking national and regional research funding and managing organisations as well as their respective programmes. CIRCLE-2 will support a common research agenda and share good practices on adaptation with national and European decision makers, thus contributing to the envisaged EU Clearing House on Climate Change Impacts Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCIVA). CIRCLE-2 (CSA-CA) builds on the experience of previous coordinating and support actions (i.e. CIRCLE CA and SSA) and will develop its activities through a new enlarged network of 23 countries and 3 regions. A flexible work plan will LEAD the consortium to identify common policy-relevant CCIVA research needs. Those needs will serve to DESIGN a joint research agenda and deepen the networking and cooperation activities of the consortium. CIRCLE-2 will FUND transnational joint research initiatives including joint calls for projects on CCIVA. The outcomes of these initiatives and projects will provide the consortium with an updated knowledge base on European, National and Regional CCIVA research and CIRCLE-2 will SHARE this knowledge base with decision-makers at all relevant scales. CIRCLE-2 will thus contribute to the development of both European and national Climate Change response frameworks (e.g. Adaptation Strategies) by facilitating research outputs tailor-made to common needs. International cooperation with non-European countries (e.g. developing countries) as well as the involvement of new EU Member States and candidate countries will be particularly encouraged throughout CIRCLE-2 lifetime."

Related information

- Furthering climate change research
- Final Report Summary - CIRCLE-2 (Climate Impact Research & Response Coordination for a Larger Europe - 2nd Generation ERA-Net - Science meets Policy)
- Periodic Report Summary 2 - CIRCLE-2 (Climate Impact Research & Response Coordination for a Larger Europe - 2nd Generation ERA-Net - Science meets Policy)
News

- Forging links between climate change scientists and policymakers

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- Periodic Report Summary 3 - CIRCLE-2 (Climate Impact Research & Response Coordination for a Larger Europe - 2nd Generation ERA-Net - Science meets Policy)
- Periodic Report Summary - CIRCLE-2 (Climate impact research and response coordination for a larger Europe - 2nd generation ERA-NET - Science meets policy)
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Subjects
Scientific Research

Last updated on 2015-03-10
Retrieved on 2015-11-18

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Joint Brazilian-European research facility for climate and geodynamic research on the Amazon River basin sediments

**From 2011-12-01 to 2015-11-30, ongoing project**

### Project details

| **Total cost:** | EUR 2 531 739,03 |
| **EU contribution:** | EUR 1 999 990,28 |
| **Coordinated in:** | France |

| **Topic(s):** | INCO.2011-7.1 - Brazil |
| **Call for proposal:** | FP7-INCO-2011-7 |
| **Funding scheme:** | CSA-SA - Support actions |

### Objective

"The CLIM-AMAZON project aims at increasing the visibility and scientific excellence of the long-term Brazilian-French scientific activities supported by the current Laboratoire Mixte International Observatoire des Changements Environnementaux (LMI-OCE), a joint laboratory between the Geosciences Institute of the Federal University of Brasilia (UnB, Brazil) and the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD, France). The objective is to open the LMI-OCE to new participating researchers from EU-Member states and Associated Countries together with the Brazilian researchers in order to maximize the initial investment of France to benefit the whole European Union. This will be achieved through the increase of the already strong existing analytical facilities of UnB to develop new approaches in the geological and environmental research in the Amazon region, a world-class example for climate research. The expansion of the research activities of LMI-OCE to new EU researchers will occur by means of scientific meetings, visits of experienced EU scientists, PhD and Post-doc calls open to students from EU Universities and of new projects proposing to do research in Brazil about erosion, the long-term history of sedimentary load transport by the Amazon River and its interaction with Atlantic Ocean. The scientific collaboration between EU/MS and Brazil within the framework of CLIM-AMAZON will have a strong impact in terms of establishment of an international laboratory based in Brazil (UnB) and also for our understanding of global transport processes involved in the world largest tropical river basin. It will also consolidate the successful cooperation between South American and European countries under the Observatoire de Recherches en Environnement sur l'Hydrologie du Bassin Amazonien (ORE-HYBAM) project."

### Related information

- **Result In Brief**
  - EU-Brazil partnership for the Amazon

- **Report Summaries**
  - Periodic Report Summary 1 - CLIM-AMAZON (Joint Brazilian-European research facility for climate and geodynamic research on the Amazon River basin sediments)
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Subjects
Regional Development

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Anatolian plateau climate and Tectonic hazards

**From** 2013-10-01 **to** 2017-09-30, ongoing project

### Project details

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<td>Germany</td>
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### Objective

“ALErT: Anatolian plateau climate and Tectonic hazards, is a virtual campus of 10 European academic and 5 industry partners in the fields of applied Earth sciences, natural hazard monitoring, and knowledge transfer. Our research focus is on the tectonic and climatic boundary conditions along the densely populated margins of the Central Anatolian Plateau, Turkey and associated natural hazards. Due to the international scale of the challenges associated with Global Change and active tectonics in plateau-margin environments worldwide, students with international experience and an interdisciplinary background will be best poised to take future leadership roles in academic, industry or policy realms. We combine the resources and training structures of universities, extramural research departments, and industry partners to equip the next generation of geoscientists with the skill sets they need to meet the challenges of dealing with natural hazards in rapidly changing environments and societies. Our efforts are rooted in (1) research-based learning using a fully interdisciplinary, network-wide approach; (2) state-of-the-art field-based method training and courses on data analysis; (3) interoperability of instructors and students; (4) secondments in industry; and (5) teaching communication skills, ultimately needed for knowledge transfer to industry, administration, and the public.”

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Subjects

Life Sciences

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BEYOND
Project reference: 316210
Funded under: FP7-REGPOT

Building Capacity for a Centre of Excellence for EO-based monitoring of Natural Disasters

From 2013-06-01 to 2016-05-31, ongoing project

Project details

<table>
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<th>Total cost:</th>
<th>Topic(s):</th>
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<td>EUR 2 886 732</td>
<td>REGPOT-2012-2013-1 - Any research topic covered by the EU FP7</td>
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<td>EU contribution:</td>
<td>Call for proposal:</td>
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<td>EUR 2 305 650</td>
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<td>Coordinated in:</td>
<td>Funding scheme:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>CSA-SA - Support actions</td>
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Objective

"BEYOND relies on existing state-of-the-art and interdisciplinary collaboration with twining organizations highly esteemed in the European Research Area, for Building Capacity for a Centre of Excellence dedicated to Natural Disaster Management in southeastern Europe, including European Balkan countries, with a potential to expand to an even wider geographic area through harmonizing the observational capabilities available in the partners. BEYOND a) sets up integrated observational solutions allowing different monitoring networks (space borne and in-situ) to cooperate in a complementary, unified and coordinated manner, b) create archives and data bases of long series of observations and higher level products, and c) make the observations and products available for exploitation with state-of-the-art science and models, hence providing the involved stakeholders, scientists and/or institutional users, with substantial information for down streaming to local needs for handling natural and human induced disasters. To accomplish this goals BEYOND is structured around 6 Work Packages namely, WP1 “Project Management”, WP2 “Personnel Recruitment”, WP3 “Infrastructure and capacity building”, WP4 “Dissemination”, WP5 “Exchange of know-how and experience”, and WP6 “Exploitation and Intellectual Property development”. It is a 36 month project building upon, a) the collaboration with high-level scientific organizations from Germany, Italy, Spain, UK, Norway, Serbia, Swiss, and Turkey, and b) the support and participation of ESA, and WMO international organisations. BEYOND envisages for the recruitment of new researchers, and establishes a detailed exploitation and targeted dissemination plan through workshops, publications, web portal, etc. BEYOND covers all the priorities defined by the work program, substantially contributing to human, institutional and infrastructure capacity building."

Related information

Report Summaries

- Periodic Report Summary 1 - BEYOND (Building Capacity for a Centre of Excellence for EO-based monitoring of Natural Disasters)
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Subjects

Scientific Research

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