

European Centre on Floods/Centre Européen sur les Inondations (AECF), Kishinev, Moldova

It concentrates on proposals to prevent the risk of flooding.

→ *Volume 1, p. 168*

European Centre on Geomorphological Hazards/Centre Européen sur les Risques Geomorphologiques (CERG), Strasbourg, France.

CERG is concerned with studying the major hazards associated with earthquakes and landslides.

→ *Volume 1, p. 168*

European Centre on Training and Information of Local and Regional Authorities and Population in the Field of Natural and Technological Disasters /Centre Européen de Formation des Autorités Locales et Régionales dans le domaine des Catastrophes Naturelles et Technologiques (ECMHT), Baku, Azerbaijan.

It provides training and information to local and regional authorities in the field of major hazards.

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European Centre on Urban Risks/Centre Européen sur les Risques Urbains (CERU), Lisbon, Portugal. Its principal functions are to provide a framework for coordinating relief and natural and technological hazard management and for devising a common strategy to combat urban hazards.

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European Commission

The European Commission embodies and upholds the general interest of the Union. The President and Members of the Commission are appointed by the Member States after they have been approved by the European Parliament. The Commission is the driving force in the Union's institutional system. It has the right to initiate draft legislation and therefore presents legislative proposals to Parliament and the Council. As the Union's executive body, it is responsible for implementing the European legislation (directives, regulations, decisions), budget and programmes adopted by Parliament and the Council.

It acts as guardian of the Treaties and, together with the Court of Justice, ensures that Community law is properly applied. It represents the Union on the international stage and negotiates international agreements, chiefly in the field of trade and cooperation

http://europa.eu.int/comm/index_en.htm

→ *Volume 1, p. 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 207, 261, 262, 263, 310*

European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO)

The European Union's mandate to ECHO is to provide emergency assistance and relief to the victims of natural disasters or armed conflict outside the European Union. The aid is intended to go directly to those in distress, irrespective of race, religion or political convictions. <http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/en/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 159, 160, 171, 172, 366, 374*

European Directorate General Joint Research Centre (JRC)

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) Directorate General is an integral part of the European Commission. It provides independent scientific and technical advice to the Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and EU Member States in support of European Union (EU) policies. Its main aim is to help to create a safer, cleaner, healthier and more competitive Europe. Its seven scientific institutes carry out research of direct concern to EU citizens. It provides technical know-how both directly and through



coordinating and contributing to numerous broader networks linking industry, universities and national institutes. The JRC is playing an important role in helping establish the European Research Area (ERA). <http://www.jrc.cec.eu.int>
→ *Volume 1, p. 170, 213, 217, 222, 261, 262, 263, 264*

European Environment Agency (EEA), Copenhagen, Denmark

The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy making agents and the public.
<http://www.eea.eu.int>
→ *Volume 1, p. 171, 256*

European Inter-regional Centre for Training Rescue Workers /Centre Européen de Formation Inter-Régionale pour les Sauveteurs (ECTR), Yerevan, Armenia.

It provides training of rescue workers and related instructors for humanitarian assistance.
http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Cooperation/Disasters/Activities/Network_of_Specialized_Euro-Mediterranean_Centres/
→ *Volume 1, p. 169*

European Laboratory for Structural Assessment – Earthquake Engineering (ELSA), Ispra, Italy

The construction of bridges, viaducts, buildings or tunnels, which can withstand earthquakes, involves using particularly sophisticated simulation laboratories. The most prestigious of these is ELSA, which is a technological flagship for the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. <http://www.elsa.jrc.it>
→ *Volume 1, p. 264*

European Natural Disasters Training Centre/Centre Européen de Formation sur les Risques Naturels (AFEM), Ankara, Turkey.

AFEM's main goal is to reduce the destructive effects of hazards through research, training and education at all levels, from policy makers to field workers associated with disaster preparedness and response.
http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Cooperation/Disasters/Activities/Network_of_Specialized_Euro-Mediterranean_Centres/
→ *Volume 1, p. 168, 206*

European Oceanological Observatory, Scientific Centre of Monaco/Centre scientifique de Monaco, Observatoire Océanologique Européen (OOE), Monaco.

It conducts research with the objective of evaluating major ecological risks and restoring degraded habitats.
http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Cooperation/Disasters/Activities/Network_of_Specialized_Euro-Mediterranean_Centres/
→ *Volume 1, p. 169*

European Research Area (ERA)

On 18, January 2000 the European Commission adopted the platform "Towards a European Research Area" which is meant to contribute to the creation of better overall framework conditions for research in Europe. ERA is regrouping all Community supports for the better coordination of research activities and the convergence of research and innovation policies, at national and EU levels.
http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/era/index_en.html
→ *Volume 1, p. 207, 262*

European Space Agency (ESA)

The European Space Agency is Europe's gateway to space. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the people of Europe. ESA has 15 Member States. By coordinating the financial and intellectual resources of its members, it can undertake programmes and activities far beyond the scope of any single European country. <http://www.esa.int/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 167, 207, 217*

European Union (EU)

The European Union was set through the process of European integration launched on 9 May 1950 when France officially proposed to create "the first concrete foundation of a European federation." Six countries (Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) joined from the very beginning. Today, after four waves of accessions (1973: Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom; 1981: Greece; 1986: Spain and Portugal; 1995: Austria, Finland and Sweden), the EU has 15 Member States and is preparing for the accession of other eastern and southern European countries. Its main agencies are: European Parliament, Council of the Union, European Commission, Court of Justice, Court of Auditors, European Central Bank, European Economic and Social Committee, Committee of the Regions, European Investment Bank, European Ombudsman. <http://www.europa.eu.int>

→ *Volume 1, p. 156, 160, 167, 169, 170, 171, 222, 229, 258, 351, 367*

European University Centre for Cultural Heritage/Centre Universitaire Européen pour les Biens Culturels (CUEBC), Ravello, Italy. CUEBC is an experimental laboratory that conducts scientific research and specialist matters. It is part of the European University for Cultural Heritage. <http://www.cuebc.amalficoast.it/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 168*

European Centre of Technogenic Safety/Centre Européen de Sécurité Technologique (TESEC), Kiev, Ukraine. TESEC is a scientific research and educational organization.

http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Cooperation/Disasters/Activities/Network_of_Specialized_Euro-Mediterranean_Centres/

→ *Volume 1, p. 168*

Experimental Climate Prediction Center (ECPC), United States of America

ECPC is developing an integrated regional climate prediction capability by undertaking basic research to identify coupled land-atmosphere-ocean linkages. ECPC models are being used to make routine experimental forecasts, which are continually evaluated in order to demonstrate their utility to various sectors on temporal scales ranging from seasonal to biennial but also touching upon daily and decadal to centennial time scales. Once ECPC has demonstrated the usefulness of various forecast tools and methodologies, its goal is to transfer these experimental methodologies to various regional application centers.

<http://ecpc.ucsd.edu>

→ *Volume 1, p. 373*

F

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLASCO) (Latin American Social Science Faculty)

The faculty's creation is based on the recommendation of UNESCO and the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean. Its objective is to promote education, research and technical cooperation in the field of social sciences for the entire region. <http://www.flasco.cl>

→ *Volume 1, p. 245*



Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), US Government

The FHWA is a part of the US Department of Transportation, headquartered in Washington, D.C., with field offices across the United States. Its mission is to provide leadership, expertise, resources and information in cooperation with partners to enhance the country's economic vitality, the quality of life, and the environment. The FHWA directly administers a number of highway transportation activities including standards development, research and technology, training, technical assistance, highway access to federally owned lands and Indian lands, and commercial vehicle safety enforcement. Further, FHWA has a significant role, working through partnerships, programs, policies, and allocating resources which facilitate the strategic development and maintenance of State and local transportation systems as effective and efficient elements of the national intermodal transportation system. <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov>

Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, (FIMA), Federal Management Agency (FEMA), United States of America

The Mitigation Division manages the National Flood Insurance Program and oversees FEMA's mitigation programs. The overall mission is to protect lives and prevent the loss of property from natural hazards. <http://www.fema.gov/fima/>

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

FICCI was established in 1927, on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, to garner support for India's independence and to further the interests of the Indian business community. Today, after five decades of Indian independence, FICCI is in the vanguard of nation building and is moving ahead to integrate the Indian economy with the global mainstream. <http://www.ficci.com>

→ *Volume 1, p. 231*

Fondo para la Reconstrucción y el Desarrollo Social del Eje Cafetero (FOREC), Armenia, Colombia

The Fund for Reconstruction and Social Development in the Coffee Region is a specialized agency with its headquarters in Armenia administered by a legal staff under financial and political autonomy. Its objective is to promote the necessary work on economic, social and ecological reconstruction in the Andean region affected by the earthquake of 25 January, 1999. FOREC's mission is to manage the public commitment of national institutions and agencies in the reconstruction work with honesty, clarity, will and efficiency in the use of the public resources and technological assistance offered for this work. FOREC received the UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction in 2000.

→ *Volume 1, p. 94*

Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA)

FINCA has been helping families to create their own solution to poverty since 1984. It provides financial services to the world's poorest families so they can create their own employment, raise household incomes and improve their standard of living. <http://www.villagebanking.org>

Foundation for the Support of Women's Work (FSWW)

The FSWW established in 1986 by a group of women from different backgrounds, is a non-profit non-governmental organisation. It aims to build social, economic and community assets for and by grassroots women, and support their leadership throughout Turkey in improving the quality of their lives and of the community. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw>

→ *Volume 1, p. 179*

Fundación de Edificaciones y Dotaciones Educativas (FEDE), Venezuela

FEDE is an institution of public administration, dedicated exclusively to solve the problems of the educational physical plant. It was created by means of the Presidential Ordinance N° 1555 dated May 11 of 1976, exercising the guides of the Ministry of Urban Development.

<http://www.fede.gov.ve/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 341*

Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE), El Salvador, (National Development Foundation)

FUNDE's mission is to offer critical thinking, analysis and proposals for sustainable development and to engage the different parties and leading institutions of the country with research and assistance in order to better the quality of life and opportunities of the marginalized. <http://www.funde.org>

Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Communal (CORDES), El Salvador, (Development Corporation)

Founded in 1988, CORDES is a non-governmental organization dedicated to the management of socio-economic development of the rural communities in El Salvador, where the poverty and destruction from the war have affected human settlements by forcing the people out of their land.

→ *Volume 1, p. 229, 230*

Fundación Salvadoreña para la Asistencia Integral (FUSAI), El Salvador, (Salvadorian Foundation for Integral Assistance)

Its mission is to support the socio-economic integration of sectors, regions and parties marginalized in society with the benefits of development <http://www.fusai.org>

G

General Directorate of Civil Protection, Governorate of Grand Alger, Algeria

The General Directorate has carried out significant training activities on disaster prevention and the organization of international forums on disaster prevention.

→ *Volume 1, p. 120*

GeoHazards International (GHI), California, United States of America

GHI was established in 1993 as a non-profit organization to reduce death and injury caused by earthquakes in the world's most vulnerable communities. In particular, GHI makes a community safer by raising awareness of its risk, building local institutions to manage that risk, and strengthening schools to protect and train the community's future generations.

<http://www.geohaz.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 332*

Geological Survey of Iran (GSI)

As an affiliate organization of the Ministry of Industries and Mines of Iran, GSI is basically an applied research center with a high caliber scientists and technical staff, and state of the art laboratory technology. GSI's mandate includes geological survey throughout the country and overseeing mineral exploration. Outcomes of the GSI surveys are produced at the scale of 1:1'000'000, 1:250'000, and 1:100'000 or larger on thematic subjects (digital or paper print) and are made available to the public. <http://www.gsi.org.ir/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 117*

Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ)

GSJ is one of the 15 research institutes of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). <http://www.aist.go.jp/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 66*



Geophysics Institute of Teheran University

The activities of this Institute are concentrated on research, education, and scientific services. The Institute has two research and educational departments. The first department, namely Earth Physics consists of the following research sections: Earthquake Seismology, Gravity, Geomagnetism, Geophysical Explorations, the Earth's Tide, Rock Physics. The second department, namely Space Physics, consists of the following research sections: Meteorology, Air Pollution, Ozone, Solar Physics, Ionosphere.

<http://www.ut.ac.ir/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 117*

Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Freiburg, Germany

GFMC has been established in 1998 at the Fire Ecology and Biomass Burning Research Group, a subdivision of the Biogeochemistry Department of the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry (Mainz, Germany). Founded in the 1970s at Freiburg University, the Fire Ecology Research Group was incorporated into the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry in 1990.

<http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de>

→ *Volume 1, p. 264, 287, 367, 370, 372, 373*

Global Monitoring for the Environment and Security (GMES)

GMES is a joint initiative of the European Space Agency and the EC. Many programmes (EC, ESA, others) will eventually contribute to GMES. In November 2001 the ESA Ministerial Council approved a new 5-year ESA programme dedicated to GMES, called the Earthwatch GMES Services Element (GSE for short). This is the very first programme dedicated to GMES. GSE will deliver policy-relevant services to end-users, primarily (but not exclusively) from Earth Observation sources. GSE is a key element of GMES, because it will enable end-users to become key players in the move from present generation Earth Observation satellites to future European systems that will deliver vital information on global environment and security. <http://earth.esa.int/gmes/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 207, 264, 310*

Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA), India

The Government of Gujarat established the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority in February, 2001 to co-ordinate the comprehensive earthquake recovery program. The GSDMA is registered as a society with a vision to go beyond reconstruction and make Gujarat economically vibrant, agriculturally and industrially competitive with improved standards of living and with a capacity to mitigate and manage future disasters. <http://www.gsdma.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 332*

H

Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center (HRRC), Texas A & M University, Texas, United States of America

The HRRC was established at Texas A&M University in 1988. The center engages in research on hazard mitigation, disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. The staff of the HRRC is interdisciplinary in nature and includes the expertise of architects, engineers, geographers, psychologists, and sociologists. The HRRC is dedicated to providing access to hazards information for home owners, professionals, business investors, and the academic community. <http://hrrc.tamu.edu>

→ *Volume 1, p. 276*

Health Canada

Health Canada is the federal department responsible for helping the people of Canada maintain and improve their health. <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 266, 375*

High Powered Committee (HPC) on Disaster Management Plans, Government of India

HPC has been constituted to review existing arrangements for preparedness and mitigation of natural and man made disasters including industrial, nuclear, biological and chemical disasters; recommend measures for strengthening organizational structures, and recommend a comprehensive model plan for management of these disasters at national, state and district levels. <http://www.ndmindia.nic.in/committee/hpcomm.html>

→ *Volume 1, p. 85, 89, 209*

Higher Institute of Emergency Planning/Institut Supérieur de Planification d'Urgence (ISPU), Archennes, Belgium.

The Institute organizes specific courses concerning problems of emergency planning for officials in public office.

http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Cooperation/Disasters/Activities/Network_of_Specialized_Euro-Mediterranean_Centres/

→ *Volume 1, p. 169*

Hungarian National Directorate General for Disaster Management (HNDGDM), Budapest

From January, 2000 an integrated organization, the National Directorate for Disaster Management, Ministry of Interior, has been established in Hungary as the central organ of the integral national disaster management. It was established on the basis of the legal predecessors, that is, the Civil Protection and the Fire Service. The system of protection against disasters is divided into three levels: international, national, and municipality.

Ibero-American Association of Civil Defense and Civil Protection, Spain

The Ibero-American Association for Civil Defense and Protection emerged from a 1-5 July 1996 meeting organized in Santiago, Chile, by the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Space Conference of the Americas and Chile's ONEMI. The subject of the meeting was the use of aerospace technology in disaster prevention and mitigation.

Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS), United States of America

IRIS is a university research consortium dedicated to exploring the Earth's interior through the collection and distribution of seismographic data. IRIS programs contribute to scholarly research, education, earthquake hazard mitigation, and the verification of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Support for IRIS comes from the National Science Foundation, other federal agencies, universities, and private foundations. <http://www.iris.washington.edu>

→ *Volume 1, p. 276*

India Musokotwane Environment Resource Centre for Southern Africa (IMERCSA), Zimbabwe

IMERCSA is a unit established in 1994 within the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC). IMERCSA has bibliographic databases with more than 6,000 records on the environment and disaster management issues. Its contacts databases, which list individual experts and organizations involved in environment and disaster management issues in the SADC region, have a total of about 2,600 entries. The centre also has a public library with reading facilities for policy planners, researchers, diplomats, journalists, and others interested in issues with a regional perspective. IMERCSA provides in-house training for young journalists. In collaboration with regionally-based organizations, IMERCSA also carries out training workshops mainly for environmental journalists in Southern Africa. <http://www.sardc.net/imercsa>

→ *Volume 1, p. 201*



Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI)

The Association is a collective body of organisations which are involved in teaching, research and related activities in the area of social sciences. Most Indian universities and research institutions are members of this Association. It was formed primarily for bringing these organisations together in meaningful dialogue's exchange and cooperation so as to crystallize ideas useful for evolving solutions to problems of social concern. All its activities like organisation of seminars and conferences, production of a multi disciplinary journal and publications have been directed to this end. <http://iassi.nic.in/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 277*

Indian Famine Commission

The wide-spread suffering caused by successive famines in the closing decades of the 19th century led to the setting up of a series of famine commissions. The first commission was appointed in 1878. It made several suggestions on the basis of which the famine codes were promulgated from 1883 onwards. The Second Famine Commission was set up after the drought of 1896-97. It recommended that "among the measures that may be adopted for giving India direct protection from drought, the first place must unquestionably be assigned to works of irrigation". <http://wrmin.nic.in/policy/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 6*

Information Technology Centre for Africa (ITCA)

ITCA is an information and communication technology (ICT) focused exhibition and learning centre to demonstrate to African policy makers and planners the value of ICT for African development. ITCA is an initiative led by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). <http://www.uneca.org/itca/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 225*

Institute for Business Home Safety (IBHS), Boston, United States of America

The Institute is a non-profit association sponsored by the insurance industry that engages in communication, education, engineering and research. Its mission is to reduce deaths, injuries, property damage, economic losses and human suffering caused by natural disasters. <http://www.ibhs.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 232*

Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction (ICLR), Canada

ICLR is a research institute established by Canada's property and casualty insurers to reduce disaster losses. The Institute is internationally recognized for its leadership in multi-disciplinary disaster prevention research. Quality research provides the foundation for better public policy and disaster management. <http://www.uwo.ca/wnews/issues/2001/apr26/centre/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 266*

Institute for Crisis, Disaster and Risk Management (ICDRM), George Washington University, USA

Established in 1994, ICDRM is an interdisciplinary academic center that provides a unique educational environment in the fields of crisis, disaster, and risk management. The Institute integrates the existing diverse expertise and research related to crisis, disaster, and risk management at the George Washington University and is unique in its interdisciplinary focus and structure. The synergy that results from this interdisciplinary approach produces innovative research, training, and education that enhances crisis and emergency management, risk management, contingency planning, emergency response, disaster recovery, business continuity, and organizational learning. <http://www.gwu.edu/~icdrm/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 259, 276*

Institute for Hazards Mitigation Planning and Research, College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Washington, United States of America

The objective of the Institute is to encourage the incorporation of hazards mitigation principles into disaster preparedness, response and recovery practices through planning programs, community involvement and research to support the creation of more disaster-resistant and sustainable communities in the Pacific Northwest.

<http://depts.washington.edu/mitigate/>

<http://www.caup.washington.edu>

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Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen, Technological and Economic Risk (IPSC)

IPSC is one of seven institutes that constitute the European Commission's Directorate-General Joint Research Centre (DG-JRC). Situated in Ispra, Northern Italy, IPSC came into being on 1st September 2001 as a result of a fusion between the Institute for Systems, Informatics and Safety (ISIS) and part of the Space Applications Institute (SAI). IPSC provides research-based, systems-oriented support to EU policies so as to protect the citizen against economic and technological risk. <http://ipsc.jrc.it/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 171*

Institute of Geography of the Romanian Academy

It is the main national institution in Romania that carries out fundamental and applied geographical research. The institute is engaged in research, documentation and professional training, supervising the work of Ph. D. candidates. The members of the Institute participate in a series of national and international interdisciplinary programmes, have membership in several commissions in the International Association of Hydrological Sciences and contribute to the activity of the National Committees for the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO), the UN International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB), and are involved in national environmental protection projects, in the complex study of the Danube Delta. <http://www.geoinst.ro/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 270*

Institute of Geotechnical Engineering, Zurich

See Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich

→ *Volume 1, p. 269*

Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN), Japan

RIKEN carries out high level experimental and research work in a wide range of fields, including physics, chemistry, medical science, biology, and engineering extending from basic research to practical application. <http://www.wtec.org/loyola/biopoly/riken.htm>

Institute of Seismology, Kazakhstan

The Institute of Seismology is the head organization in the sphere of basic and applied researches regarding the problems of providing seismic safety. It was formed by the Decree of the Government of the Kazakh SSR and Enactment of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh SSR dated from June 16, 1976. During the years of its existence it underwent structural changes to optimize and correspond more sufficiently to the scientific tasks being solved. At present, the organization chart of the Institute includes six scientific-research laboratories conducting basic and applied researches of the main seismological aspects; Seismological Experimental-Methodical Expedition carrying out continuous instrumental observation of seismic regime, geophysical fields, gas and chemical composition of the underground water in the territory of South-Eastern Kazakhstan, and



also the Center of Analysis and Prediction. Engineering and Seismometric Service consisting of 15 sites equipped with digital stations of strong motions has been created in the territory of the city of Almaty. The received information is intended to solve problems of seismic microzonation. <http://www.seismology.kz/eng/index.html>

→ *Volume 1, p. 119*

Instituto de Nutrición de Centro América y Panama (INCAP), (Central American and Panamanian Institute for Nutrition)

INCAP is specialized in food security and nutrition. Located in the city of Guatemala it has also offices in each of its member states: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. <http://www.incap.org.gt/>

Instituto Geofísico, Escuela Politécnica Nacional, Ecuador (IG-EPN)

The IG monitors and maps hazards of Ecuadorian volcanoes and tectonic faults. After nearly 20 years of quiescence, Tungurahua, Guagua Pichincha, Reventador, and Cayambe volcanoes have been unusually active since 1999. <http://www.igeppn.edu.ec/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 287*

Instituto Nacional de Gestao de Calamidades (INGC), Mozambique (National Disaster Management Institute)

Created in June 1999, INGC manages day-to-day matters relating to disasters. This is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

http://www.teledata.mz/ingc/default_eng.htm

→ *Volume 1, p. 104, 234*

Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia (INAM), (National Institute for Meteorology), Mozambique

Its mission is to minimize the impacts of hydrometeorological hazards and contribute to sustainable development and the reduction of poverty. <http://www.inam.gov.mz>

Instituto Nicaraguense de Estudios Territoriales (INETER), Managua, Nicaragua, (Nicaraguan Institute for Territorial Studies)

INETER is the technical and scientific body of the state that provides its services to the entire population in such areas as basic information as well as projects and studies of the environment which contribute to socio-economic development and the lowering of vulnerability to natural disasters, continuously tracking dangerous natural phenomena.

→ *Volume 1, p. 92*

Insurance Council of Australia, (ICA)

The mission of ICA is to influence, ethically, and expertly, the political, social, business and economic environment in order to promote members' role in providing insurance protection and security to the community. <http://www.ica.com.au/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 272*

Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS)

IGOS unites the major satellite and surface-based systems for global environmental observations of the atmosphere, oceans and land.

<http://ioc.unesco.org/igospartners/igoshome.htm>

→ *Volume 1, p. 375*

Inter-African Centre for studies on Rural Radio/Centre Interafricain d'Etudes en Radio Rurale (CIERRO), Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

CIERRO's main mission is to make at the disposal of the personnel of african radios

training capacities initial and continued, in the following fields: programmes for technical knowledge, programmes for mastering national languages for radio amateurs. CIERRO abrites also the Rural and Local Radios Network, an initiative from the Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie. The creation of this network responds to the necessity to make available new information and communication technologies to the rurals through rural radios. It permits exchange of programmes, coproductions by themes, constitution of an african programmes bank, and training for its members.

www.radios-rurales.net/Reseau/index.htm

→ *Volume 1, p. 157*

Inter-American Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR), OAS

See Organization of American States (OAS)

→ *Volume 1, p. 71*

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), Washington DC, United States of America

The IADB is the oldest and largest regional multilateral development institution. It was established in December 1959 to help accelerate economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean. <http://www.iadb.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 23, 255, 307, 347, 396*

Inter-Departmental Disaster Management Committee (IDMC), South Africa

In April 1999, the Interim Disaster Management Centre was replaced with the Inter-departmental Disaster Management Committee to deal with disasters and other phenomena and to give advice to the Committee. The National Disaster Management Centre came into operation on 1 April 2000. <http://www.gov.za/structure/disaster.htm>

→ *Volume 1, p. 102*

Inter-Departmental Mitigation Coordinating Committee (IMCC), Canada

The Government of Canada has taken the first steps towards national leadership on mitigation. In January 2001, a federal inter-departmental committee on mitigation, coordinated by OCIEPEP, was established to compile information on roles, responsibilities, programs and activities related to mitigation in order to assess gaps and overlaps, and evaluate opportunities and priorities for federal government action on mitigation. In the future, this federal inter-departmental committee could serve as a standing committee for the review of internal priorities for the Government of Canada. <http://www.ociepep-bpiepc.gc.ca/>

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Djibouti (Autorité Intergouvernementale pour le développement)

IGAD's vision is based on determination of the governments of the sub-region to pool resources and coordinate development activities in order to tackle the present and future challenges more efficiently, and enable the sub-region to interact and compete in the global economy. www.igad.org

→ *Volume 1, p. 150, 151, 152, 176, 370*

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), Paris, France

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO was founded in 1960 on the basis of the recognition that "the oceans, covering some seventy percent of the earth's surface, exert a profound influence on mankind and even on all forms of life on earth. In order to properly interpret the full value of the oceans to mankind, they must be studied from many points of view." <http://ioc.unesco.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 374*



Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

In 1988, UNEP and WMO jointly established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as concern over climate change became a political issue. The purpose of the IPCC was to assess the state of knowledge on the various aspects of climate change including science, environmental and socio-economic impacts and response strategies. The IPCC is recognized as the most authoritative scientific and technical voice on climate change, and its assessments had a profound influence on the negotiators of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol. The IPCC continues to provide governments with scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to evaluating the risks and developing a response to global climate change. (<http://www.grida.no/climate/vital/16.htm> <http://www.ipcc.ch>)

Working Group II of the IPCC assesses the vulnerability of socio-economic and natural systems to climate change, negative and positive consequences of climate change, and options for adapting to it.

→ *Volume 1, p. 27, 47, 53*

Inter-Ministerial Committee for Disaster Management (IMC), South Africa

The IMC provides leadership for the development and implementation of national policy on disaster management. Under the leadership of the IMC, the Department of Constitutional Development published the Green Paper on Disaster Management for South Africa for comment in February 1998. After consultation with key role players and comments from both the private and public sectors around the Green Paper, the White Paper evolved.

→ *Volume 1, p. 102*

International Association of Earthquake Engineering (IAEE), Tokyo, Japan

The IAEE aims to promote international cooperation among scientists and engineers in the field of earthquake engineering through interchange of knowledge, ideas, and results of research and practical experience. <http://www.iaee.or.jp>

→ *Volume 1, p. 325*

International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI)

The purpose of IASPEI is to promote the study of problems relating to earthquakes, the propagation of seismic waves, and the internal structure, properties and processes of the earth; to initiate and coordinate the conduct of researches which depend on cooperation between different countries, and to provide for their scientific discussion; to facilitate particular researches on scientific and applied seismology, such as the comparison of instruments used in different countries, researches on blasting and generally all matters to which seismology is related. <http://www.seismo.com/iaspei/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 331*

International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI)

The Association represents the primary international focus for research in volcanology, efforts to mitigate volcanic disasters, and research into closely related disciplines, such as igneous geochemistry and petrology, geochronology, volcanogenic mineral deposits, and the physics of the generation and ascent of magmas in the upper mantle and crust.

<http://www.iavcei.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 55, 218*

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), World Bank

Established in 1945, IBRD aims to reduce poverty in middle-income and creditworthy poorer countries by promoting sustainable development, through loans, guarantees, and other analytical and advisory services. www.worldbank.org

International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal

ICIMOD is committed to developing an economically and environmentally sound ecosystem and improving living standards of mountain communities, mainly in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas area. <http://www.icimod.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 159, 160, 372*

International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy

Founded in 1964 by Abdus Salam (Nobel Laureate), ICTP operates under the aegis of two United Nations agencies: UNESCO and IAEA and is regularized by agreement with the government of Italy. One of the main aims of ICTP is to foster the growth of advanced studies in developing countries. <http://www.ictp.trieste.it>

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

ICRC is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. <http://www.icrc.org>

International Consortium on Landslides (ICL)

ICL was launched by the 2002 Kyoto Declaration. Its main objectives are: a) to promote landslide research for the benefit of society and the environment, and capacity building, including education, notably in developing countries; b) to integrate geosciences and technology within the appropriate cultural and social contexts in order to evaluate landslide risk in both urban, rural and developing areas and cultural and natural heritage sites, as well as to contribute to the protection of the natural environment and sites of high societal value; c) to combine and coordinate international expertise in landslide risk assessment and mitigation studies, thereby resulting in a renowned international organization which will act as a partner in various international and national projects; and d) to promote a global, multidisciplinary programme on landslides.

<http://www.unesco.org/science/earthsciences/disaster/icl.htm>

→ *Volume 1, p. 53*

International Council of Science (ICSU), Paris, France

ICSU is a non-governmental organization, founded in 1931 to bring together natural scientists in international scientific endeavour. It comprises 98 multidisciplinary national scientific members (scientific research councils or science academies) and 26 international, single discipline Scientific Unions to provide a wide spectrum of scientific expertise enabling members to address international, interdisciplinary issues which none could handle alone. <http://www.icsu.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 375*

International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), Switzerland

ICVA, founded in 1962, is a global network of human rights, humanitarian, and development NGOs, which focuses its information exchange and advocacy efforts primarily on humanitarian affairs and refugee issues. <http://www.icva.ch>

International Council on Chemical Associations, (ICCA)

ICCA is the world-wide voice of the chemical industry, representing chemical manufacturers and producers all over the world. ICCA promotes and co-ordinates Responsible Care and other voluntary chemical industry initiatives. ICCA has a central role in the exchange of information within the international industry, and in the development of



position statements on matters of policy. It is also the main channel of communication between the industry and various international organizations that are concerned with health, environment and trade-related issues, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation & Development (OECD). <http://www.icca-chem.org/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 232*

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), 1990-1999

An International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, beginning on 1 January 1990, was launched by the United Nations, following the adoption of Resolution 44/236 (22 December 1989). The Decade was intended to reduce, through concerted international action, especially in developing countries, loss of life, poverty damage and social and economic disruption caused by natural disasters. To support the activities of the Decade, a Secretariat was established at the United Nations Office in Geneva, in close association with UNDRO.

→ *Volume 1, p. 9, 10, 11, 55, 63, 65, 71, 80, 87, 102, 117, 135, 140, 163, 164, 171, 172, 177, 186, 202, 260, 266, 284, 285, 330, 358, 360, 370, 371, 381, 386*

International Development Association (IDA), World Bank

IDA provides long-term loans at zero interest to the poorest of the developing countries. It helps build the human capital, policies, institutions, and physical infrastructure that these countries urgently need to achieve faster, environmentally sustainable growth. Its goal is to reduce disparities across and within countries, especially in access to primary education, basic health, and water supply and sanitation and to bring more people into the mainstream by raising their productivity. <http://www.worldbank.org/ida>

International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada

IDRC is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to help developing countries use science and technology to find practical, long-term solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems they face. <http://www.idrc.ca/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 266*

International Drought Information Center (IDIC), University of Nebraska, United States of America

The University of Nebraska at Lincoln established IDIC to better understand the problem of drought. IDIC strives to improve communication about prediction, monitoring, impact assessment, adjustment and adaptation, and planning and response to drought.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/seg/hazard/resource/methaz/drtinfoa.html>

<http://drought.unl.edu>

→ *Volume 1, p. 216*

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

IFRC is the world's largest humanitarian organization, providing assistance without discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions.

<http://www.ifrc.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 74, 83, 144, 160, 167, 174, 176, 187, 196, 197, 198, 202, 225, 228, 256*

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Laxemburg, Austria

IIASA is a non-governmental research organization located in Austria. The institute conducts inter-disciplinary scientific studies on environmental, economic, technological and social issues in the context of human dimensions of global change. IIASA researchers study environmental, economic, technological, and social developments. In doing so, they generate methods and tools useful to both decision makers and the scientific community. The work is

based on original state-of-the-art methodology and analytical approaches and links a variety of natural and social science disciplines. <http://www.iiasa.ac.at/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 244*

International Institute for Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), Enschede, the Netherlands

ITC is an autonomous organisation operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and the Ministry for Development Cooperation and closely linked to Twente University. ITC is an internationally recognized centre of excellence aiming at capacity building and institutional development specifically in countries that are economically and/or technologically less developed. <http://www.itc.nl/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 65*

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Winnipeg, Canada

Its mission is to champion innovation, enabling societies to live in a sustainable way. It advances policy recommendations on international trade and investment, economic policy, climate change, measurement and indicators, and natural resource management to make development sustainable. By using the Internet it covers and reports on international negotiations and brokers knowledge gained through collaborative projects with global partners, resulting in more rigorous research, capacity building in developing countries and a better dialogue between North and South. IISDnet identifies issues, sets goals, and compiles information on sustainable growth. <http://www.iisd.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 299*

International Institute of Disaster Risk Management (IDRM), Manila, Philippines

The IDRM promotes international standards and best practices in disaster and risk management. It works on principles of continuous learning, organizational and individual professional development. IDRM experts and partners are committed to applying appropriate, innovative and inexpensive solutions to development and disaster risk management. <http://www.idrmhome.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 240*

International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES), Tehran, Iran

The main goal of IIEES is seismic risk reduction and mitigation both in Iran and the region by promoting research and education in science and technology related to seismotectonic, seismology and earthquake engineering. IIEES activity in research covers all aspects of earthquakes from tectonic study to retrofitting complex structure; and in education from public education to PhD programmes in earthquake engineering. <http://www.iiees.ac.ir>

→ *Volume 1, p. 117*

International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Geneva, Switzerland

ISO is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies from some 140 countries, one from each country. ISO is a non-governmental organization established in 1947. The mission of ISO is to promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world with a view to facilitating the international exchange of goods and services, and to developing cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity. ISO's work results in international agreements which are published as International Standards. <http://www.iso.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 302, 312*



International Research Committee on Disasters (IRCD)

IRCD establishes international linkages among disaster researchers around the world.

<http://www.udel.edu/DRC/IRCD.html>

→ *Volume 1, p. 260, 259*

International Research Institute for Climate Prediction (IRI), New York, United States of America

IRI was established as a cooperative agreement between US NOAA Office of Global Programs and Columbia University. IRI is a unit of the Columbia Earth Institute located at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. Its vision is that of an innovative science institution working to accelerate the ability of societies worldwide to cope with climate fluctuations, especially those that cause devastating impacts on humans and the environment, thereby reaping the benefits of decades of research on the predictability of El Niño-Southern Oscillation phenomenon and other climate variations. By orchestrating a wide network of collaborations and comprehensive programs that couple physical science research and applications research with capacity building, the IRI is a unique institution in the international development of applications of climate prediction. <http://iri.ldeo.columbia.edu>

→ *Volume 1, p. 48, 214, 369, 374*

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)

The International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) came to an end in December 1999. The General Assembly endorsed in its resolution 54/219 the proposals put forward in the report of the Secretary-General to ensure the establishment of successor arrangements for disaster reduction for the effective implementation of the international strategy for disaster reduction. An inter-agency task force and inter-agency secretariat, under the authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs have been established. <http://www.unisdr.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 2, 11, 12, 49, 50, 58, 71, 72, 167, 358, 392, 397*

International Sociological Association (ISA)

ISA is a non-profit association for scientific purposes in the field of sociology and social sciences. It was founded in 1949 under the auspices of UNESCO. Its goal is to represent sociologists everywhere, regardless of their school of thought, scientific approaches or ideological opinion, and to advance sociological knowledge throughout the world. Its members come from 109 countries. ISA is a member of the International Social Science Council and enjoys a status of the non-governmental organization in formal associate relations with UNESCO and special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. <http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 259*

International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC), Honolulu, Hawaii

ITIC was established on 12 November 1965 by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. In 1968, IOC formed an International Coordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific (ICG/ITSU). ITIC monitors the activities of the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific. <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/itic>

→ *Volume 1, p. 374*

Internationale Kommission zum Schutz des Rheins/International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR)

The Rhine pollution has always shown particularly negative effects in the Netherlands. That is why the Netherlands united the Rhine-bordering countries (Switzerland, France, Luxembourg, Germany) to discuss problems of water protection and to look for common solutions. The ICPR was founded in Basel in July, 1950. <http://www.iksr.org/index.htm>

J

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

JICA is responsible for the technical cooperation aspect of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) programs. Technical cooperation and a variety of programs are aimed at the transfer of technology and knowledge that can serve the socio-economic development of the developing countries. <http://www.jica.go.jp>

→ *Volume 1, p. 97, 272*

Japan Meteorology Agency (JMA)

The major activities of JMA are to issue warnings, advisories and forecasts, to deal with the global environmental issues such as global warming and ozone depletion, and to provide information on earthquake and volcanic activities. <http://www.jma.go.jp>

→ *Volume 1, p. 48*

Joint Operations Technical Committee ZRA/Hidroeléctrica de Cabora Bassa, Mozambique

The Zambesi River Authority (ZRA) was established by Zambia and Zimbabwe in 1998 to coordinate their decisions on water use, power generation, and upstream and downstream risk consequences of their water management policies. Following the 2000 floods, the ZRA formed the Joint Operations Technical Committee with Hydroeléctrica de Cabora Bassa in Mozambique to share data and technical information about the operations of their respective Kariba and Cabora Bassa reservoirs.

→ *Volume 1, p. 156*

K

Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute, Bogazici University, Turkey

The Institute offers graduate work leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in geodesy, geophysics and earthquake engineering. The primary objective of the graduate program is to train specialists and/or theoreticians (required for research and teaching) in geodesy, geophysics and earthquake engineering, capable of creative and original thinking and disseminating new ideas and concepts in related activities in Turkey. <http://www.koeri.boun.edu.tr/defaulteng.htm>

→ *Volume 1, p. 259*

L

Laboratory of Hydraulics and Glaciology, ETH Zurich

See Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich

→ *Volume 1, p. 269*

La Red de Estudios Sociales en Prevención de Desastres en América Latina (LA RED), (The Latin American Network for the Social Study of Disaster Prevention)

Initially conceived as a mechanism to facilitate comparative research of natural disasters from a social perspective, LA RED has developed into the focal point for hundreds of individuals and institutions working in the field of disaster and risk management in the different countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. <http://www.desenredando.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 72, 144, 196, 203, 226, 245, 247, 255, 256*

M

Major Accident Hazards Bureau (MAHB)

MAHB is a special Unit within the Joint Research Centre's Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen, Technological and Economic Risk Management Unit, dedicated to scientific and technical support for the actions of the European Commission in the area of the control of Major Industrial Hazards. The overall mission of the Bureau is to assist other services of the Commission, and in particular Directorate General Environment in the



successful implementation of European Union policy on the control of major hazards and the prevention and mitigation of major accidents. To fulfil this mission, MAHB carries out scientific and technical activities related to the day to day implementation of relevant Community legislation. Since 1982, when the Original Seveso Directive (Council Directive 82/501/EEC) was approved by the Council of Ministers after the famous accident at Seveso, there has been Community provision for the control of major industrial hazards.

<http://mahbsrv.jrc.it/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 171, 264*

Médecins sans Frontières (MSF)

MSF is an international humanitarian aid organization that provides emergency medical assistance to populations in danger in more than 80 countries. In countries where health structures are insufficient or even non-existent, MSF collaborates with authorities such as the ministries of health to provide assistance. MSF works in rehabilitation of hospitals and dispensaries, vaccination programmes and water and sanitation projects. MSF also works in remote health care centres, slum areas and provides training of local personnel. All this is done with the objective of rebuilding health structures to acceptable levels.

<http://www.msf.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 202, 228*

Megacities 2000 Foundation, Netherlands

The Megacities Foundation in the Netherlands was started as a direct result of an initiative taken by UNESCO which asked the International Academy of Architecture (IAA) to focus attention on the problems of the explosively growing megalopolises. The Megacities Foundation was created in December 1994. <http://www.megacities.nl>

→ *Volume 1, p. 332*

Mekong River Commission (MRC), Cambodia

MRC promotes and co-ordinates sustainable management and development of water and related resources among countries bordering the Mekong River in Southeast Asia.

<http://www.mrcmekong.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 366, 367*

Meteorological Service of Canada (MSC)

MSC is Canada's source for meteorological information. The Service monitors water quantities, provides information and conducts research on climate, atmospheric science, air quality, ice and other environmental issues, making it an important source of expertise in these areas. <http://www.msc-smc.ec.gc.ca/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 266*

Ministerio de ciencia y tecnología (MCT), (Ministry of Science and Technology), Venezuela

Its mission is to develop policies, strategies and plans which support the creation of a scientific and technical entity that carries out research and initiatives in pursuit of satisfying the needs of the population and promoting the national industry. It also aims to strengthen research and development initiatives for the improvement of innovations and national production, and support postgraduate programmes that foment scientific, technical and humanitarian development in the country. <http://www.mct.gov.ve>

Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), El Salvador, (Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources)

Its mission is to direct an effective management of the environment through the clear

policies and all-encompassing initiatives which help sustain development of the Salvadorian society. <http://www.marn.gob.sv>

Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM), Moscow, Russia

EMERCOM was set up by decree of the President of the Russian Federation on January 10, 1994. In fact, the Ministry came into existence on December 27, 1990 when the Russian Rescue Corps was established. Its task was to ensure prompt and effective actions when emergencies arise. In 1995, two federal laws were enforced “On Protection of Population and Territories from Natural and Man-Made Emergencies” and “On Emergency and Rescue Services and Status of Rescuers”. They laid down the foundation of the government policy and administrative and legal norms in the realm of population protection, on the one hand, and rescuers, on the other hand.

<http://www.icdo.org/National%20structures/Russian%20Federation.pdf>

→ *Volume 1, p. 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 210, 211, 269, 270, 377*

Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF), Bangladesh

The Ministry of Environment and Forest takes care of the management aspect of biotechnology activities. It is responsible for management and development of forest resources. It conducts forest study along with the Forest Sector Master Plan.

<http://www.jica.go.jp/english/global/env/profiles/e99ban.pdf>

Ministry of Environment, Planning and Public Works, Greece

In order to activate the participation and further the cooperation of all responsible ministries and organisations, the Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works has developed a coordinating mechanism so that the concept of sustainable development is incorporated in their actions and their activities. <http://www.minenv.gr/>

Multi-disciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER), Buffalo, New York, United States of America

MCEER’s overall goal is to enhance the seismic resilience of communities through improved engineering and management tools for critical infrastructure systems (water supply, electric power, hospitals, transportation systems). Seismic resilience (technical, organizational, social and economic) is by reduced probability of system failure, reduced consequences due to failure, and reduced time to system restoration. MCEER works toward this goal by conducting integrated research, outreach, and education activities in partnership with the users of the center products. <http://mceer.buffalo.edu>

→ *Volume 1, p. 326*

Munich Reinsurance, Germany

Munich Re is not only a world leader in reinsurance but it has also strategically strengthened its business with strong involvement in primary insurance and in asset management. It covers a range of special subjects such as: risk management and industrial insurance, alternative risk transfer. In *Topics*, a publication which appears twice a year, Munich Re experts look at the current situation of natural disasters throughout the world and current topics and trends in the insurance industry. *Topics* also presents new Munich Re products and services, as well as the world map on natural catastrophes.

<http://www.munichre.com>

→ *Volume 1, p. 25, 38, 46, 49, 196*



N

National Academy of Sciences (CAS), China

CAS is China's National Academy and was founded in Beijing in November 1949. It is China's largest and most prestigious academic institution and runs more than a hundred research institutes throughout the country.

→ *Volume 1, p. 209, 267*

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), United States of America

Since its inception in 1958, NASA has accomplished many great scientific and technological feats in air and space. NASA technology also has been adapted for many non-aerospace uses by the private sector. NASA remains a leading force in scientific research and in stimulating public interest in aerospace exploration, as well as science and technology in general. <http://www.nasa.gov>

→ *Volume 1, p. 211, 212, 217, 222, 372*

NASA Earth Observatory

The purpose of NASA's Earth Observatory is to provide a freely-accessible publication on the Internet where the public can obtain new satellite imagery and scientific information about our home planet. The focus is on Earth's climate and environmental change.

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 212*

National Botanical Institute (NBI), South Africa

The mission of the NBI is to promote the sustainable use, conservation, appreciation and enjoyment of the exceptionally rich plant life of South Africa, for the benefit of all people.

<http://www.nbi.ac.za/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 68*

National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Boulder, United States of America

It is NCAR's mission to plan, organize, and conduct atmospheric and related research programs in collaboration with the universities and other institutions, to provide state-of-the-art research tools and facilities to the atmospheric sciences community, to support and enhance university atmospheric science education, and to facilitate the transfer of technology to both the public and private sectors. Created in 1960, the Center is operated by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation. <http://www.ncar.ucar.edu/ncar/>

National Centre for Disaster Management (NCDM), New Delhi, India

The NDM (Natural Disaster Management) Division, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India established the National Centre for Disaster Management in March, 1995. NCDM (National Centre For Disaster Management) functions as a nodal centre in the country for human resource development in the area of disaster management, disaster mitigation and for tackling disasters. Since June 2002, the subject of disaster management except drought has been shifted to the Ministry of Home Affairs and hence NCDM is functioning under MHA. <http://www.ncdm-india.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 228*

National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), Phnom Penh, Cambodia

In 1995, as a result of the country's experience with regularly occurring disasters, the Royal Government of Cambodia established NCDM. Its responsibilities are defined in terms of not only providing timely and effective emergency relief to the victims of disasters, but also developing preventive measures to reduce loss of lives and property. This is accomplished by applying scientific and technical knowledge to mitigate disasters.

<http://www.cred.be/centre/research/Documents/ncdm.pdf>

→ *Volume 1, p. 88*

National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC), the Philippines

NDCC is the highest policy-making, coordinating and supervising body for disaster management in the Philippines. It strives to reach out to as many people as possible to provide relevant and timely information that is beneficial to the public.

<http://www.ndcc.gov.ph/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 82*

National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), Pretoria, South Africa

Its mission is to improve knowledge, awareness and understanding of disasters, and to coordinate and facilitate access to information and resources in order to promote and support comprehensive, integrated and effective disaster management in South Africa.

<http://sandmc.pwv.gov.za>

→ *Volume 1, p. 102*

National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Relief and Rehabilitation Commission was established in June 1974 following the outbreak of famine in the two northern provinces of Ethiopia. In August 1995, it was re-established as the DPPC. The objectives of the Commission cover prevention, preparedness and response aspects of disaster management.

→ *Volume 1, p. 98*

National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), United States of America

NEMA is the professional association of Pacific and Caribbean insular state emergency management directors committed to providing national leadership and expertise in comprehensive emergency management. It serves as a vital information and assistance resource for state and territorial directors and their governors, while forging strategic partnerships to advance continuous improvements in emergency management.

<http://www.nemaweb.org>

National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) (formerly the Natural Resources Conservation Authority, NRCA), Jamaica

NEPA is a new executive agency that became operational on April 1, 2001. It is an agency of the Ministry of Land and the Environment. NEPA represents a merger between the Natural Resources Conservation Authority, the Town Planning Department (TPD) and the Land Development and Utilization Commission. The Agency results from the work of the Government of Jamaica Public Sector Modernization Programme (PSMP). The aim of the merger is to integrate environmental, planning and sustainable development policies and programmes and to improve customer service. Its mission is to promote sustainable development by ensuring protection of the environment and orderly development in Jamaica through highly motivated staff performing at the highest standard. <http://www.nrca.org/>

National Institute for Disaster Prevention (NIDP), Republic of Korea

NIDP was established to reduce loss of life and property from natural and man-made disasters. Its research field is on disaster prevention as well as an evaluation field including an evaluation of the master plan for the creek improvement. www.nidp.go.kr

National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Japan

AIST is an independent administrative institution administered by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. On April 1, 2001, the new AIST began operations. It comprises 15 research institutes previously under the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology in the Ministry of International Trade and the Weights and Measures Training Institute. The new AIST is Japan's largest public research organization. AIST shall carry



out activities regarding: (1) research and development on industrial science and technology, (2) geological survey, (3) measurement standards, and (4) technological applications for the private sector. <http://www.aist.go.jp/>

National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS), United States of America

NIBS was authorized by the US Congress in the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383. Through NIBS, the Congress established a public/private partnership to enable findings on technical, building-related matters to be used effectively to improve government, commerce and industry. NIBS is a non-profit, non-governmental organization bringing together representatives of government, the professions, industry, labour and consumer interests to focus on the identification and resolution of problems that hamper the construction of safe, affordable structures for housing, commerce and industry. NIBS' councils and standing committees are : the Consultative Council, established as mandated in NIBS' authorizing legislation; the Building Seismic Safety Council (BSSC); the Building Environment and Thermal Envelope Council (BETEC); the Facility Information Council (FIC); the International Alliance for Interoperability (IAI); the Multihazard Mitigation Council (MMC); and the Facility Maintenance and Operations Committee (FMOC). <http://www.nibs.org/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 73*

National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India

NIRD is India's apex body for undertaking training, research, action research and consultancy functions in the rural development sector. It works as an autonomous organization supported by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment of the Government of India. <http://www.devinit.org/indianresearchchrgs.htm>

→ *Volume 1, p. 240*

National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), New Zealand

The NIWA was established in 1992 as one of nine New Zealand Crown Research Institutes. NIWA's mission is to provide a scientific basis for the sustainable management of New Zealand's atmospheric, marine and freshwater systems and associated resources. NIWA maintains the New Zealand Freshwater Fish Database and the Water Resources Archive, the national repository for freshwater time-series data.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/seg/hazard/resource/methaz/hydrniwa.html>

→ *Volume 1, p. 48*

National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS)

The Technical Co-operation Programme was developed to ensure that national Meteorological and Hydrological Services have the required means to fulfil their mission. Projects in several WMO member countries and regions are currently being implemented with the aim of improving and strengthening the capacities of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS's) to participate effectively in other WMO programmes. <http://www.wmo.ch/>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Washington DC, United States of America

NOAA's mission is to describe and predict changes in the earth's environment, and conserve and wisely manage the nation's coastal and marine resources. NOAA's strategy consists of interrelated strategic goals for environmental assessment, prediction and stewardship. <http://www.noaa.gov>

→ *Volume 1, p. 217, 237, 369, 376, 377*

NOAA Coastal Services Centre (CSC)

CSC is an office within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration devoted to serving the nation's state and local coastal resource management programs. Its mission is to support the environmental, social, and economic well being of the coast by linking people, information, and technology. <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 72*

National Science Foundation (NSF), Washington DC, United States of America

NSF is an independent agency of the US Government, established by the National Science Foundation Act of 1950. Its mission is to promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare, and to secure the national defence.

<http://www.nsf.gov>

National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET), Kathmandu, Nepal

NSET strives to assist all communities in Nepal to become earthquake safer by developing and implementing organized approaches to managing and minimizing earthquake risks.

<http://www.nset.org.np>

→ *Volume 1, p. 245, 330*

Natural Hazards Centre, Christchurch, New Zealand

The Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) have created a natural hazards information centre. It aims to provide New Zealanders with a single point of contact for the latest research, resources, and scientific expertise. <http://www.naturalhazards.net.nz>

→ *Volume 1, p. 274*

Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, University of Colorado, Boulder, United States of America

The centre is a national and international clearinghouse that provides information on natural hazards and human adjustments to these risks. The centre's prime goal is to increase communication among hazard and disaster researchers and individuals, agencies, and organizations actively working to reduce disaster damage and suffering. The Natural Hazards Center carries out its mission in four principal areas: information dissemination, an annual workshop, research, and library services. <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards>

→ *Volume 1, p. 28, 204*

The Netherlands Red Cross Centre on Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness

In response to the growing concerns regarding climate change, in June 2002, the Netherlands Red Cross officially launched the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Centre on Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness. The centre will address the threat millions of people face from climate change related disasters every year by seeking to bridge the gap between meteorological science and relief aid.

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/dp/climate/centre.asp>

→ *Volume 1, p. 304*

Niger Basin Authority (NBA)

The aim of the Niger Basin Authority is to promote cooperation among the member countries and to ensure integrated development in all fields through development of its resources, notably in the fields of energy, water resources, agriculture, forestry exploitation, transport and communications, and industry. <http://www.abn.ne/webeng/index-eng.html>

→ *Volume 1, p. 157, 306*



North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

NATO is an alliance of 19 countries from North America and Europe committed to fulfilling the goals of the North Atlantic Treaty signed on 4 April 1949.

<http://www.nato.int/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 167, 174*

Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (NGI)

NGI is a private foundation doing research and consulting in the geo-sciences, including soil, rock and snow. <http://www.ngi.no/english/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 213*

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), United States of America

NRC is an independent agency established by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 to regulate civilian use of nuclear materials. <http://www.nrc.gov>

O

Office Fédéral de l'Environnement, des Forêts, et du Paysage (OFEFP), Switzerland (Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape (SAEFL))

SAEFL is the federal office responsible for environment. It is integrated in the Federal Department of Environment, Transportation, Energy and Communication.

<http://www.umwelt-schweiz.ch/buwal.de>

Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)

OFDA/USAID has been the principal US agency to extend assistance to countries recovering from disaster, trying to escape poverty, and engaging in democratic reforms.

<http://www.usaid.gov>

→ *Volume 1, p. 3, 8, 40, 47, 48, 134, 144, 159, 183, 196, 208, 214, 226, 228, 229, 286, 309, 348, 363*

Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), Kingston, Jamaica

ODPEM is committed to taking pro-active and timely measures to prevent or reduce the impact of hazards in Jamaica, its people, natural resources and economy through its trained and professional staff, the use of appropriate technology and collaborative efforts with national, regional and international agencies. <http://www.odpem.org.jm>

→ *Volume 1, p. 286*

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris, France

The OECD groups 30 member countries sharing a commitment to democratic government and the market economy. With active relationships with some 70 other countries, NGOs and civil society, it has a global reach. Best known for its publications and its statistics, its work covers economic and social issues from macroeconomics, to trade, education, development, science and innovation. <http://www.oecd.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 256, 309, 340, 345*

Organization of American States (OAS), Washington, DC, United States of America, (Organización de Estados Americanos)

The nations of the Americas are working more closely together than ever before strengthening democracy, advancing human rights, promoting peace and security, expanding trade and tackling complex problems caused by poverty, drugs and corruption. Together they are building a better future for the next generation. At the outset of a new century and a new millennium, the challenge is how to turn citizens' high expectations into reality. OAS

is playing a central role in working toward many of the goals that are shared by the countries of North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. <http://www.oas.org>
 → *Volume 1, p. 71, 72, 144, 147, 176, 247, 329, 330, 340*

- Inter-American Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR)

The IACNDR is the main forum of the OAS and the Inter-American System for the analysis of policies and strategies aimed at natural disaster reduction in the context of the sustainable development of member states. The OAS General Assembly established the IACNDR based on the need to strengthen the role of the OAS in natural disaster reduction and emergency preparedness.

- OAS's Unit for Sustainable Development (USDE)

The Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment is the principal technical arm of the OAS General Secretariat for responding to the needs of member states on issues relating to sustainable development within an economic development context. Technical issues addressed by the USDE include transboundary management of water resources, reduction of vulnerability to natural hazards, public participation in decision-making, climate change, sea-level rise, coastal-zone management, renewable energy planning, and biodiversity. Formed in 1963, the Unit has evolved from an office dealing with natural resource inventories in different countries to one whose main task is to follow up on the mandates emanating from Agenda 21 and the Bolivia Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development. <http://www.oas.org/usde/>

Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Castries, St. Lucia

The OECS came into being on 18 June, 1981, when seven Eastern Caribbean countries signed a treaty agreeing to co-operate with each other and promote unity and solidarity among the members. It is composed of 9 member states: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and 2 Associated Member States: Anguilla, British Virgin Islands. <http://oecs.org>
 → *Volume 1, p. 350*

Organization of Rural Associations for Progress (ORAP), Zimbabwe

ORAP was founded in 1981 by a small group of people in Matabeleland Province to discuss development options following the independence war which ended in 1980. ORAP aims at creating employment and greater self reliance through promoting culturally relevant self-help activities. The organization also aims at encouraging grassroots programme development and promoting economic and financial autonomy.
<http://www.iisd.org/50comm/commnds/desc/d41.htm>

Overseas Development Institute (ODI), United Kingdom

Its mission is to inspire and inform policy and practice which lead to the reduction of poverty, the alleviation of suffering and the achievement of sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. It does this by locking together high-quality applied research, practical policy advice, and policy-focused dissemination and debate. It works with partners in the public and private sectors, in both developing and developed countries.
<http://www.odi.org.uk>
 → *Volume 1, p. 25*

OXFAM, United Kingdom

Oxfam's work is dedicated to finding lasting solutions to poverty and suffering.
<http://www.oxfam.org.uk/>
 → *Volume 1, p. 89, 228, 278*



Oxford Center for Disaster Studies (OCDS), United Kingdom

OCDS is one of the leading organisations in consultancy, training and research in the field of disaster management and protection.

→ *Volume 1, p. 206*

P

Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PTWC), Hawaii

Established in 1949, the PTWC in Ewa Beach, Hawaii, provides warnings for tsunamis to most countries in the Pacific Basin as well as to Hawaii and all other US interests in the Pacific outside of Alaska and the US West Coast. Those areas are served by the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WC/ATWC) in Palmer, Alaska. PTWC is also the warning center for Hawaii's local and regional tsunamis. <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/ptwc>

→ *Volume 1, p. 374*

Pan-American Engineering Association for the Public Health and Environment (Asociación Interamericana de Ingeniería Sanitaria y Ambiental (AIDIS))

The mission of AIDIS-Canada is to further the goals of AIDIS Interamericana through programs and services that promote sound environmental practices, policies, management, and education to improve the quality of life throughout the Americas.

<http://www.aidis.org.br/>

→ *Volume 1, p. 339*

Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) of Natural Sciences and Technology, ETH Zurich

The Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) conducts basic research, mostly financed by Swiss tax moneys. http://www.psi.ch/index_e.shtml

→ *Volume 1, p. 270*

Philippines Commission on Higher Education (CHED)

CHED is mandated to undertake the following tasks: promote quality education; take appropriate steps to ensure that education shall be accessible to all, and insure and protect academic freedom for the continuing intellectual growth, the advancement of learning and research, the development of responsible and effective leadership, the education of high level professionals, and the enrichment of historical and cultural heritage.

→ *Volume 1, p. 250*

Philippines Institute for Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), Quezon City

The principal goal of PHIVOLCS is to formulate up-to-date and comprehensive disaster preparedness and loss reduction action plans for volcanic eruption, earthquake occurrences and related geotectonic processes/phenomena which imprint significant impacts on man and his environment. PHIVOLCS undertakes activities geared towards making people aware of volcanoes and volcanology, earthquakes and seismology, and to understand why, where and how natural disasters of volcanic and seismic origins occur in the Philippines.

<http://www.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph>

→ *Volume 1, p. 250*

Phnom Penh Regional Platform on Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific, Phnom Pehn, Cambodia

The High-level Regional Meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) reviewed the progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 in the region and identifies key policy issues, priorities, goals, constraints and actions in preparation for the WSSD.

→ *Volume 1, p. 30*

PLANAT (Swiss National Platform for Natural Hazards), Bern, Switzerland

The Federal Council aims to improve prevention in the field of natural hazards. To this end, it created the national PLANAT. This consultative body of the confederation is organized as an extra parliamentary commission. Whilst taking care to avoid a duplication of efforts, it also ensures a better use of the existing structures. <http://www.planat.ch>

→ *Volume 1, p. 111, 268*

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Potsdam, Germany

The founding of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in 1992 arose out of the growing need among political decision-makers to be informed about the consequences of Global Change. In this respect the question of increasing concentrations of CO₂ in the atmosphere and the effect this would have on climate, the environment and society was of particular importance. Since then PIK has been involved in investigating the ecological, geophysical and socioeconomic aspects of worldwide climatic change, and climate-impact research has become part of a comprehensive earth system analysis. <http://www.pik-potsdam.de>

ProVention Consortium (Disaster Management Facility, World Bank)

Its mission is “to help developing countries build sustainable and successful economies and to reduce the human suffering that too often results from natural and technological catastrophes”. The ProVention Consortium is a global coalition of governments, international organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, and civil society organizations aimed at reducing disaster impacts in developing countries. The Consortium functions as a network to share knowledge and to connect and leverage resources to reduce disaster risk. <http://www.proventionconsortium.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 223, 224, 225, 254, 256, 259, 260, 261, 304, 357, 396*

Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI)

Its mission is to serve public, private, and non-profit organizations as a dynamic, forward thinking resource for the practical enhancement of risk management. <http://www.riskinstitute.org/about.asp>

R

Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) in Disaster Management, Bangkok, Thailand

Within the framework of the Advisory Council, an ADPC Consultative Committee on Regional Cooperation in Disaster Management has been established. The Committee comprises members of the ADPC Board of Trustees/Advisory Council who are working in key Government positions in the National Disaster Management systems of countries of the Asian region. The role of RCC is to provide an informal consultative mechanism for development of action strategies for disaster reduction in the region and promotion of cooperative programs on a regional and sub-regional basis, so as to guide ADPC's work. <http://www.adpc.net>

→ *Volume 1, p. 158*

Russian Academy of Sciences

The country's leading scientific institution is a self-governing organization entitled to manage its affairs and property. Its activities are regulated by the laws of Russian Federation and its own Charter. The Academy network comprises 440 research institutions and 12 major scientific centers located all over the country. http://www.ihst.ru/jubilee/academy_jubilee-e.htm

→ *Volume 1, p. 114*



S

SAHEL Institute (INSAH), Bamako, Mali

INSAH, a specialized institution of CILSS, provides food security in a balanced ecological environment; coordinates, harmonizes and promotes scientific and technical research and training and disseminates scientific and technical information on issues related to drought control, desertification management and population. <http://www.insah.org/index.html>
→ *Volume 1, p. 157*

Save the Children Fund, United Kingdom (SCF-UK)

SCF-UK is the leading United Kingdom charity working to create a better world for children. <http://www.oneworld.org/scf>

Secretaría General de Planificación (SEGEPLAN), Guatemala (Planning Secretariat)

SEGEPLAN supports decision-making, within the presidency and other centres of public policy formulation in the executive branch, by providing specific social-economic information that facilitates informed decisions related to the country's development. <http://www.segeplan.gob.gt>

Seismic Safety Association (USSA), Uganda

USSA is a non-profit professional organization some of whose members are affiliated to the Uganda Institution of Professional Engineers, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Government Ministries, NGOs, insurance industry, community leaders, and members from the general public. <http://www.ehc.arch.vuw.ac.nz/newsletters/jan99/page8.htm>
→ *Volume 1, p. 330*

Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)

SEWA's main goals are to organise women workers for full employment. Full employment means employment whereby workers obtain work security, income security, food security and social security (at least health care, child care and shelter). SEWA organises women to ensure that every family obtains full employment. <http://www.sewa.org/>
→ *Volume 1, p. 228*

Simon Fraser University Telematics Research Lab (TRL), Canada

The convergence of computers and communications, and the accelerating growth of global information networking is beginning to have profound impact on the organization of disaster mitigation, planning and response at all levels of society. During the past decade, the Centre for Policy Research on Science and Technology and its associated Telematics Research Laboratory (TRL) have been participating in these developments through applied disaster communication research in Canada and abroad in collaboration with civil emergency organizations at all levels of government and with the United Nations and international disaster relief organizations. <http://www.hazard.net/trl>
→ *Volume 1, p. 376*

Sistema de Integración Centroamericana (SICA)

SICA, and its secretariat, is a regional organization created by the Central American Presidents in the Declaration of Tegucigalpa with the purpose of offering its technical services as well as political expertise to the initiatives of regional integration, and particularly to the development of the Central America Union. <http://www.sicanet.org>
→ *Volume 1, p. 146*

Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil (SINAPROC), Panama (National Civil Protection System)

SINAPROC is an infrastructure of programmes, institutional relationships, methodologies

and processes, which coordinates the common efforts of the institutions of the three governmental hierarchies, as well as the public and private social agencies, to protect society against the dangers of natural risks and disasters. <http://www.sinaproc.gob.pa>

Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres (SNPMAD), Nicaragua (National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Attention)

In March, 2000, legislation was approved for the establishment of the National System for the Prevention, Mitigation of, and Attention to Disasters. The National Committee is the administrative entity of the system, whose role is to define the policies and plans of the system, as well as to assist the President of the Republic with the declaration of a state of emergency and approve the annual budget directed to the national fund for disasters. The system has established commissions for sectorial initiatives for the execution of the plans adopted by the system. The legislation stipulates that the commissions shall be organized and coordinated at the ministerial level. <http://www.sinapred.gob.ni>

→ *Volume 1, p. 92*

South African Qualifications Authorities (SAQA)

The South African Qualifications Authority is a body of 29 members appointed by the Ministers of Education and Labour. The members are nominated by identified national stakeholders in education and training. Its National Qualifications Framework is the set of principles and guidelines by which records of learner achievement are registered to enable national recognition of acquired skills and knowledge, thereby ensuring an integrated system that encourages life-long learning. <http://www.saqa.org.za>

→ *Volume 1, p. 248*

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Kathmandu, Nepal

SAARC was established when its charter was formally adopted on 8 December, 1985 by the heads of state of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. SAARC provides a platform for the peoples of South Asia to work together in a spirit of friendship, trust and understanding. It aims to accelerate the process of economic and social development in member states. <http://www.saarc-sec.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 159, 160, 161*

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji

Its mission is to improve the well being of the peoples of Pacific Island developing states through the application of geoscience to the management and sustainable development of their non-living resources. SOPAC member countries include Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia (Associate), Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia (Associate), Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu. <http://www.sopac.org.fj>

→ *Volume 1, p. 108, 109, 159, 163, 164, 165, 176, 205, 256, 311, 370*

Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Gaborone, Botswana

The primary role of SADC is to help define regional priorities, facilitate integration, assist in mobilizing resources and to maximize the regional impact of projects. The approach is to address national priorities through regional action. The SADC Programme of Action is made up of all the programmes and projects approved by the Council of Ministers. <http://www.sadc.int>

→ *Volume 1, p. 31, 58, 102, 150, 153, 154, 155, 156, 176, 200, 201, 246, 362, 370*

- Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) – Development Unit, Harare, Zimbabwe

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is promoting regional Cooperation in economic development. It has adopted a Programme of Action covering



cooperation in various sectors, including food security and natural resources management. In order to enhance food security for all in the region, SADC established a Food Security Programme. Its secretariat is formed by the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) Development Unit. <http://www.sadc-fanr.org.zw>

→ *Volume 1, p. 154*

- SADC Water Resources Coordination Unit

In view of the importance of the role that water plays in ensuring the well-being of the peoples of SADC, a distinct Water Sector was established by the community in 1996. The day-to-day coordination activities of the sector are undertaken by a dedicated unit known as the SADC Water Sector Coordinating Unit (SADC WSCU), located in the Ministry of Natural Resources, in Lesotho. The vision of the SADC Water Sector is, “to attain the sustainable, integrated planning, development, utilization and management of water resources that contribute to the attainment of SADC’s overall objectives of an integrated regional economy on the basis of balance, equity and mutual benefit for all member States”. <http://www.sadcwscu.org.ls>

- Regional Early Warning Unit (REWU), SADC, Harare, Zimbabwe

The SADC Regional Early Warning Unit is an institution of the Southern African Development Community financially supported through contributions from Member States. The SADC Regional Early Warning System operates as an integrated project, comprising a Regional Early Warning Unit (REWU), based in Harare, and autonomous National Early Warning Units in each of the ten original SADC member states. <http://www.sadc-fanr.org.zw/rewu/rewu.htm>

- Regional Remote Sensing Unit (RRSU), SADC, Harare, Zimbabwe

The main objective is to strengthen national and regional capabilities in the area of remote sensing and GIS for use of early warning for food security and natural resources management. <http://www.sadc-fanr.org.zw/rrsu/rrsu.htm>

Southern African Research and Documentation Center (SARDC), Harare, Zimbabwe

SARDC’s objective is to improve the base of knowledge about economic, political, cultural and social developments, and their implications, by making information accessible to governments and policy makers, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, regional and international organizations, development agencies, parliaments, and the media. <http://www.sardc.net>

→ *Volume 1, p. 201*

Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources (SAFIRE), Harare, Zimbabwe

SAFIRE was founded in October 1994 and since then it has steadily evolved to become one of the larger environmental NGOs in Southern Africa, and is associated particularly with natural products development, forestry-related issues on communal land, and with participatory approaches to community based natural resource management.

<http://www.safireweb.org>

→ *Volume 1, p. 183*

State Agency for Civil Protection, Bulgaria

The State Agency for Civil Protection is a legal entity funded by the state budget with headquarters in Sofia. The Agency implements the state policy in the area of the protection in crisis situations caused by natural factors and by technical activities. It is a working body of the Standing Committee on the Protection of the Population in the Cases of Disasters and Accidents at the Council of Ministers. <http://www.cp.government.bg/about-en.php>

→ *Volume 1, p. 174*