



Training Courses on 'Seismology and Seismic Hazard Assessment'

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The GFZ Potsdam realises annually International Training Courses on 'Seismology and Seismic Hazard Assessment' which aim to improve the expertise in earthquake hazard assessment and risk estimation through training in seismological analysis methods. Every second year the courses take place as regional course, while in the other years they are realised as worldwide open courses in Germany. The courses provide theoretical fundamentals and practical training in applied seismology, microzonation and seismic hazard assessment, especially for geoscientists and engineers from developing countries. The program is particularly useful for seismological station and network operators, data interpreters and those concerned with seismic zoning and hazard assessment.

The courses cover all relevant aspects of applied seismology and seismic hazard assessment with introductory and advanced lectures, workshop sessions, field excursions and extensive practical exercises. Aspects of modern digital data acquisition and analysis, and problems of seismic microzonation, vulnerability and risk assessment/management have gained increased importance in recent years.

The concept of the courses with respect to the contents, duration, didactic approach and the way of running the training courses alternately in Potsdam and in earthquake-prone developing countries has been confirmed as being useful and viable. It is a unique school with an international team of lecturers. Many useful spin-offs can result for the training courses, for the participating countries as well as for the lecturers in view of their own research and teaching obligations and later follow-up co-operation.