



## **Education and awareness regarding earthquakes and their consequences within the Cluj-Napoca SEISMOLAB, Romania**

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Education and awareness are efficient methods to mitigate the effects of natural disasters on communities. In this regard, the most receptive target group is the youth who have the potential to become vectors of information dissemination in their families and communities. In a country with significant seismic potential like Romania, the development of a Seismolab by means of an educational project is welcomed. The Seismolab operates within the Faculty of Environmental Science and Engineering at “Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, and it hosts activities conducted with the students of the faculty and pupils from Cluj and other schools involved in the RoEduSeis project. The RoEduSeis Project is a research and education project meant to develop the practical skills of primary, secondary and high school students in the field of Earth Sciences. A major objective of the project pursues the development and validation of new practical training methods for both teachers and students in the field of Earth Sciences. In this context, the Seismolab serves this particular aim by activities such as: training of students and teachers on conducting analyses and processing seismological data obtained from the educational seismographs in the Romanian educational seismic network; hands-on activities for pupils using educational resources developed through the project; documentary 2D and 3D movies and round tables on the topic of earthquakes and other natural risks. The students of the faculty use the data bases within subject matters in the curricula such as: Management of natural risks and disasters, Natural hazards and risks, Management of emergency situations etc. The seismometer used within the Seismolab will be connected to the above-mentioned educational network and the interaction between all the schools involved in the project will be conducted by the means of an e-learning platform. The results of this cooperation will contribute to a better education and awareness regarding earthquakes as a natural risk.