



## **Efforts by the ICSU Regional Office for Africa, NAM S&T Centre and AfricaArray to mitigate geohazards**

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We will present collaborative efforts by several organisations to assess and mitigate the risks posed by geohazards in the developing world by building local capacity and scientific infrastructure.

The ICSU Regional Office for Africa (ICSU ROA) endeavours to ensure that the voice of African scientists influence the international science agenda and that scientists from Africa are fully involved in international research programmes guided by regional priorities. Four Africa Science Plans were published in 2017, viz. Health and Human Well-being, Global Environmental Change, Natural and Human-Induced Hazards and Disasters, and Sustainable Energy. The status of work addressing geohazards will be presented.

In December 2017 the Center for Science and Technology Center of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Center) held an International Roundtable on the Impact of Extreme Events in Sri Lanka. The role of science and technology for mitigation was discussed by representatives of 18 developing countries in Asia, the Middle East and Africa. The principal themes of the meeting and the “Colombo Resolution” will be presented.

The AfricaArray program was launched in 2005 with a 20-year vision to establish research infrastructure, build capacity and conduct research in support of the mineral resources, geohazards, groundwater and environmental sectors in sub-Saharan Africa. It now operates a ‘backbone’ permanent network of 51 geophysical observatories in 19 countries. Since 2010 it has deployed temporary arrays in Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi-Tanzania, Botswana, Namibia, Uganda and South Africa’s Bushveld Complex. The work conducted by AfricaArray to assess seismic hazard in Africa will be presented, in particular a USAid-funded project to assess hazard and risk along the East African Rift System conducted in collaboration with the Global Earthquake Model foundation.