

Post-conference Workshops

Saturday 17/02/2024 - Full day (9 am – 1 pm & 2pm – 6pm)

Hotel Porta

Post-4: Developing a Volcano Early Warning System for Guatemala

English / Participants: 10 – 40 / Cost: 10 US\$

Following on from the Early Warning System workshop, focused upon Fuego and Santiaguito, we held in March 2023, we would like to bring together experienced practitioners, academics, and Guatemalan government researchers for a workshop around Volcano Early Warning System development. This would be a practical, one-day workshop, where participants from a broad range of stakeholders, will come together to design a framework for a Volcano Early Warning System for Guatemala. The workshop speaks directly to the meeting's theme four 'From Volcanic Monitoring and Hazard Assessment to Risk Management' as it will pull together current and future monitoring efforts, community and institutional preparedness plans and hazard mapping to enhance disaster risk reduction.

Early Warning Systems are an important part of any Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) effort and are the current focus of a large combined United Nations - World Meteorological Office effort – Early Warnings for All (<https://public.wmo.int/en/earlywarningsforall>). Volcanic Early Warning Systems are crucial for mitigating the impacts of volcanic eruptions and protecting communities living in the vicinity of volcanoes, allowing authorities to evacuate at-risk populations, reducing the likelihood of casualties and injuries. Volcanic eruptions can cause extensive damage to infrastructure such as roads, bridges, power lines, and agricultural assets. By providing advance notice, Early Warning Systems enable authorities to take preventive measures to safeguard critical infrastructure, thereby reducing the economic impact of eruptions.

Our intended outcome of for the meeting is a roadmap towards development, testing and deployment of a Volcanic Early Warning System, built from the ground up, that listens to and supports a range of stakeholders. We hope to build on lessons learned during the March 2023 workshop to map roles and responsibilities, to formalize relationships and delimit lines of communications during volcanic crises. One focus will be on the theoretical development of an Alert Level system.

Workshop organizers:

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