



SPECIAL SESSION: SS-6

NATO – SfP983054 (BSAHP) Project:

HARMONIZATION OF SEISMIC HAZARD MAPS FOR THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES

Chair:

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The Session aims to raise awareness and initiate professional forum on results and achievements of NATO – SfP983054 (BSAHP) Project: HARMONIZATION OF SEISMIC HAZARD MAPS FOR THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES (<http://www.wbseismicmaps.org/>).

The BSAHP project has been carried in the period 2007-2010 by 12 institutions from 7 countries (in alphabetic order: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey). More than 48 key academic staff members have been involved to realize the following general and specific objectives:

- Preparation of new seismic hazard maps of the region of Western Balkan using modern scientific methods that ensure harmonization within the region;
- Establishment of a complex, consistent GIS application database of earthquake catalogue, seismotectonics and seismic hazard data, for the whole region;
- Methodological improvement and harmonization of seismic hazard maps of the participating counties to surmount the existing artificial differences in the cross-border seismic hazard levels of the participating countries;
- Improvement of existing seismic monitoring networks through the deployment of strong- and weak-motion stations at the participating countries;
- Provision of a consistent background for tailoring the seismic provisions of the participating countries harmonized with EU standards (Eurocode 8);
- Establishing active scientific collaboration between the participating countries, and training of future-promising young scientists in earthquake-hazard related topics;
- Implementation of final achievements and results by End Users: (1) Civil protection agencies, (2) Agencies for urban planning, (3) Ministries responsible for seismic safety improvement and seismic risk management, (4) Authorities for seismic design code legislation, (5) National seismic networks, (6) Seismological, geological and geophysical institutions in the Region, (7) Insurance companies, as well as (8) all other entities mandated for development of seismic design legislation framework, seismic safety improvement and seismic risk management at local and national levels.

The session format will comprise brief presentations and an open, directed discussion forum.

Date, place and the time of the session will be announced in the Conference Programme.