The GeobsNet initiative

federating scientific efforts in the field of geo- and environmental hazards

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Do geohazards matter?
HAZARDS
- Convergence of various major geohazards (volcanoes, EQ, mass mvt)
- Combination of geohazards (triggering)
- Poor / no continuous measurements (e.g. seismic netw.)
- No cross-border data sharing policy (case by case, rare)

VULNERABILITY
- High density of population
- Limited/no awareness/other priorities
- Limited/no preparedness

⇒ RISK is HIGH
Facilitate data exchange at national and international levels

Create national focal points devoted to improve
  - Data centralizing, sharing and dissemination
  - Research coordination

To foster research
  - Integrated approach instead of succession of single and isolated initiatives

To foster international cooperation

To foster the local expertise

To improve the recording of geohazards key-parameters over long and continuous time periods

To serve as regional center for geo-hazards related matters
  - Training
  - Information
Implications:

• Assess the will at political level ✓
• Identify national relays to push the process forward ✓
• To organize the network formally and setup/adapt structures as geobservatories

• Format projects to match the GEOBSNET objectives
  ➔ networking, sharing ideas, joint projects/initiatives... (GEOPRISMs?)

Requires more support:
- Funding
- Project synergies
- Capacity building (training sessions, masters/PhD prog.)

✓ in progress
see poster
GeoRisCA project
Conclusions

• Good science is essential
But
• Science is needed for its application to geohazards and risks assessments
• A regional approach is mandatory
• Sustainability requires local appropriation
• More information on what has been achieved and ongoing projects: see poster this meeting

Or www.africamuseum.be/GEORISCA
www.ecgs.lu/GORISK