

Capacity Building in Central Asia to Monitor the CTBT

In 2018, a new joint project started between NORSAR, the Institute of Geophysical Research ME of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and the Institute of Seismology of the Academy of Science of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan. The project focuses on capacity building in Central Asia in relation to technical verification of compliance with the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), as well as on education in seismology and research for an improved seismic and infrasonic monitoring of Central Asia. During the first year, the cooperation focused on the modernization of the National Data Centers in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan and training courses on interpreting and processing of seismic records conducted at the KNDC in Almaty for specialists from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan. To improve the monitoring capabilities and the regional cooperation between the countries in Central Asia, the compilation of a regional bulletin has started by collecting seismic data or seismic onset readings from more than 50 stations in Central Asia. In addition, methods are under development to classify different source types (natural, man-made) of the events in the new bulletin.

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