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The Seismic Activity of the Lake Kivu Basin: Need of a Large Seismic Network

Lake Kivu is a collapse ditch lake immediately located in the western branch of the East African Rift. In the lake kivu bassin region the seismic activity of the Rift and the volcanic activity constitute the most serious geological risks from which facing the population. Until 2015, there was no seismic sensor installed in the region to monitor the lake Kivu bassin. In 2016, three seismic stations were deployed by a belgian project to monitor the seismic activity of Lake Kivu. However a number up to eighteen earthquakes with magnitude between 4.0 and 6.0, all located on the shores of Lake Kivu and which have caused enormous damages to the infrastructures, towns and villages surrounding this lake was identified in this las decade. The problem is due to lack of seismic observation stations, the location of earthquakes and many other seismic analysis are made with many errors, which makes it difficult to define the highly dangerous areas. There is therefore a need for a reliable seismic network to help understand what is taking place in this area and to define seismic risks with possible precision. Key words: Lake Kivu, earthquakes, lack of seismic observations, need of seismic network

Primary author: BIRIMWIRAGI NAMOGO, Didier (Goma Volcano Observatory)

Presenter: BIRIMWIRAGI NAMOGO, Didier (Goma Volcano Observatory)

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