

Oceania Regional Seismic NETwork (ORSNET) concept

The shape of Vanuatu islands is a challenge to accurately locate earthquakes along the Vanuatu trench by the National Warning Center. Therefore regional cooperation between Vanuatu and New Caledonia is the best solution to this challenge. This cooperation is developed by a joint governmental project since January 2011 and through which the Vanuatu earthquake detection system has been operational.

The use of a common system helps both institutes on earthquake automatic detection. Then procedures and alert systems give support for regional decision makers within these countries. The first outcome of this regional network is to decrease the earthquake time detection and to help on the dissemination of early warning. Moreover this cooperation complies with the ICG/IOC/PTWS recommendations and it shows how better service observatories could bring to their country.

Positive results of this cooperation force to consider the potential to extend to a larger network between several countries amongst south west pacific area. Others PICS network could all be integrated within a virtual regional seismic network, sharing data regionally and helping locally decision makers regarding tsunami and earthquake threats. The Oceania Regional seismic NETwork (ORSNET) concept, coming from this collaboration, is aimed to bring a solution to this regional need.

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