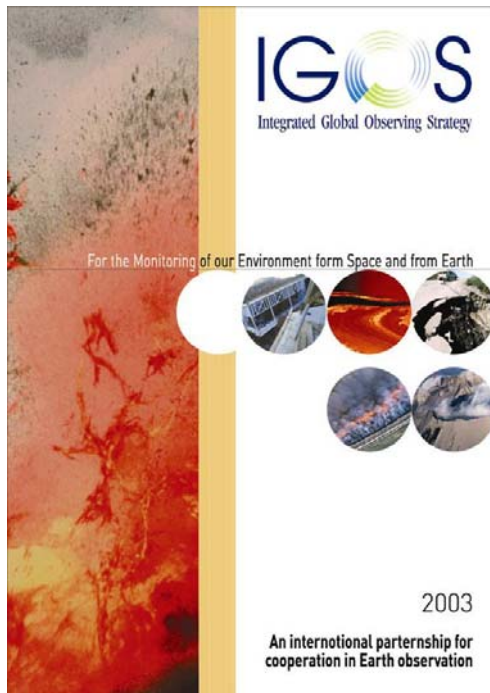


# Implementing the Integrated Global Observing Strategy



Robert Missotten<sup>1</sup> Stuart Marsh<sup>2</sup>,  
Marc Paganini<sup>3</sup>, Hormuz Modaresi<sup>4</sup>  
Steven Hosford<sup>4</sup> & Roz Helz<sup>5</sup>



<sup>1</sup>United Nations Educational, Scientific  
& Cultural Organisation



<sup>2</sup>British Geological Survey



<sup>3</sup>European Space Agency



French Geological Survey<sup>4</sup>



United States Geologic Survey<sup>5</sup>

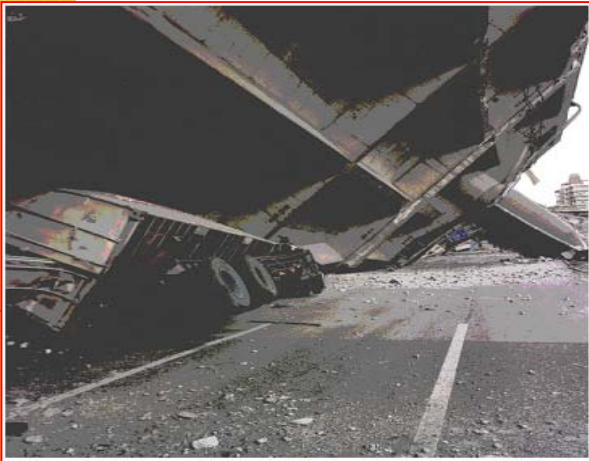
# Outline

- Context: The Impact of Geohazards
- The IGOS Geohazard Theme Report
- IGOS Geohazard Theme Implementation

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# Geohazards...



Earthquakes



Volcanos



Landslides



Subsidence

# ...impose a high cost on society

Each year geohazards cost:

- Lives (thousands)
- Livelihoods (millions)
- Infrastructure (billions)

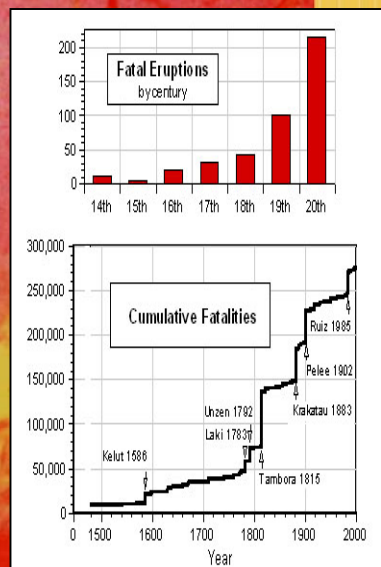
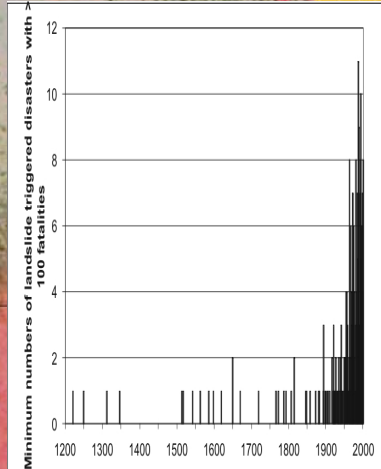


Population growth is focused in hazardous areas

The UN assessment of all natural hazards is that:

- 97% of lives lost are in developing countries
- Economic impacts affect rich and poor alike
- UN estimate: costs have risen x10 in 40 years
- Impact of losses long-lasting; affects insurance

Can society afford this? The short answer is no!

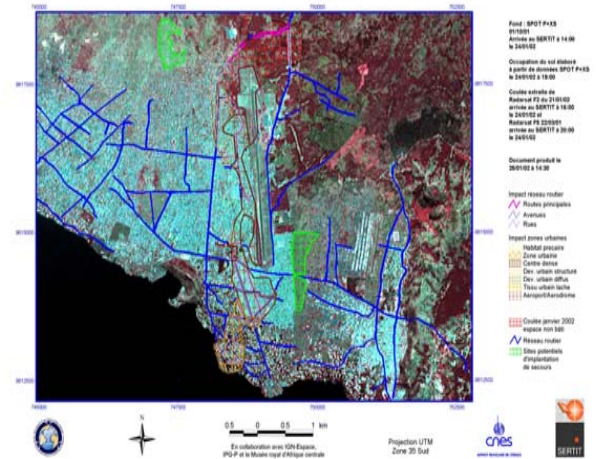


# International responses

**Major events** put geohazards on global agenda:

- Kobe Earthquake
- Goma Volcano
- Italian Landslides
- Urban subsidence

Cartographie de la coulée de lave sur la ville de Goma, RDC - janvier 2002  
Impact sur le tissu urbain et sur le réseau routier



**Responses** to this agenda:

- Politics: Sustainability, EO Summits, GEO Process
- UN: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
- Operations: UN Action Team, International Charter
- Tools: CEOS Disaster Management Support Group
- Projects: EC, World Bank, NASA, ESA and others

**All hindered by gaps in mapping and monitoring**

# Filling the gap: the Integrated Global Observing Strategy for Geohazards

- What was missing: **strategy for global observation**
- NOAA saw potential for IGOS to fill geoscience gap
- UNESCO, NOAA, CEOS & ICSU took this forward:
  - **Town meeting scoped out a 'Geo' Theme in May 2001**
- Ad-hoc Working Group established in May 2001
  - **Proposed the IGOS Geohazards Theme in June 2002**
- Theme Team co-chaired by BGS, ESA, and UNESCO
  - **Report approved by IGOS Partners in November 2003**

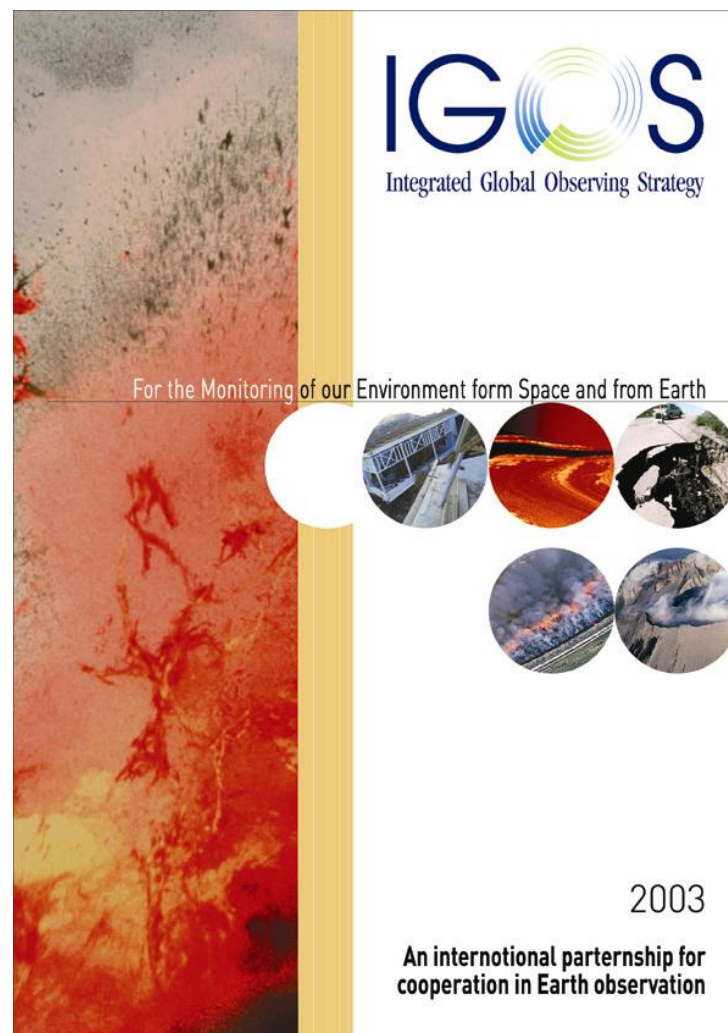
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# IGOS Geohazard Theme Report

- Published by ESA in April 2004
- Available from the IGOS Geohazards Executive Bureau:
  - [s.hosford@brgm.fr](mailto:s.hosford@brgm.fr)
- Available online at:
  - <http://igosg.brgm.fr>



# Goal and Objectives until 2014

Integrating current disparate, applied EO research into global, operational, geohazards systems via:

Building capacity

Improving observations

Integration activities

Promoting action

IGOS Geohazards has a clear scope and context:

**Global tectonic geohazards**

**Focus on preparedness:**

- Only geological hazards
- All linked by deformation
- Use similar ground-based and satellite observations

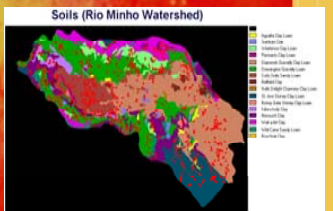
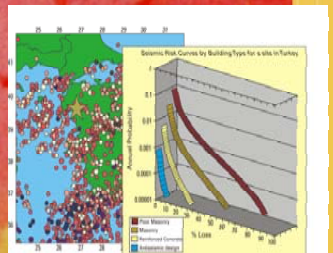
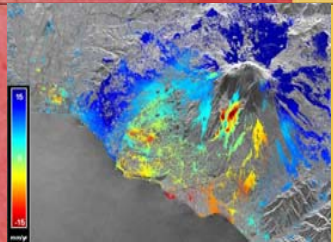
i.e. mitigation, mapping, monitoring, forecasting

**Cross-membership/links:**

- UN Action Team 7
- International Charter
- Other IGOS Themes

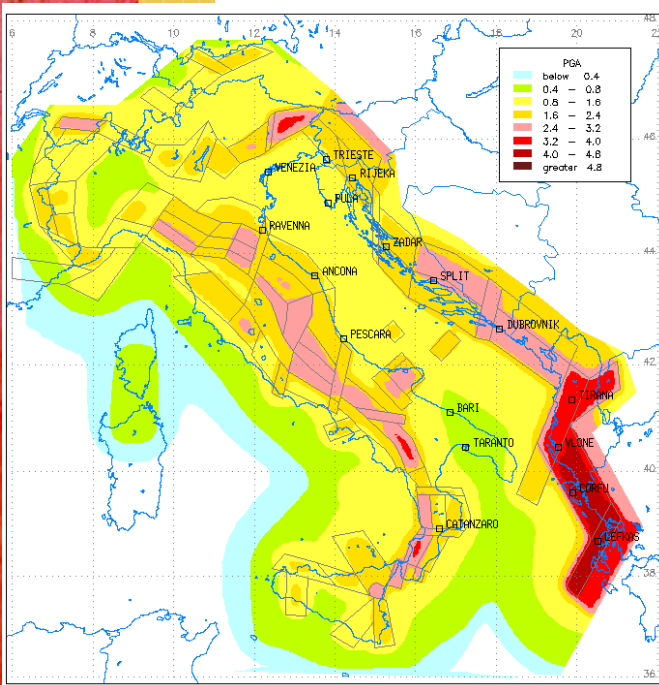
**A socio-economic context**

**Building on previous work**



# Users and Beneficiaries

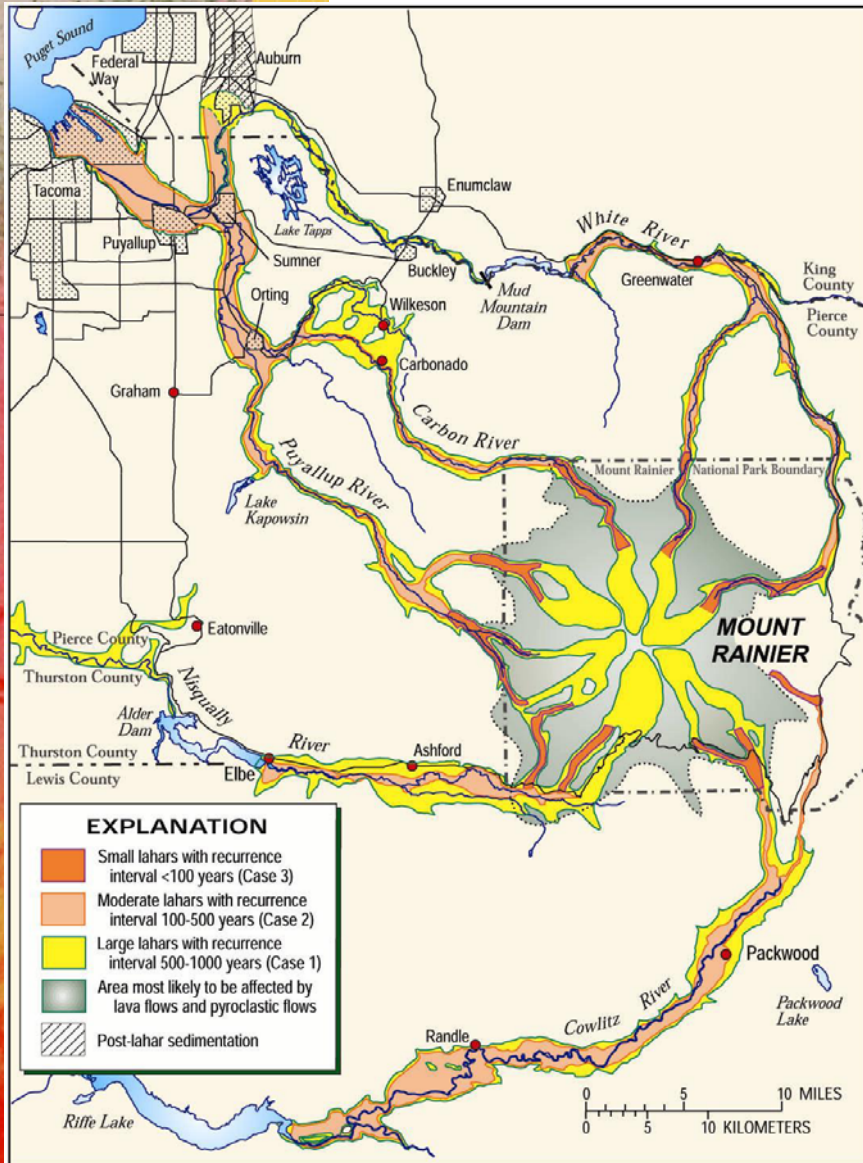
Citizens are ultimate beneficiaries of strategy...  
... but there are 3 main data/information users:



- ◆ **Responsible Authorities**, who are provided with key information by...
- ◆ ... **Scientists in Monitoring and Advisory Agencies**, who are provided with geohazards knowledge by...
- ◆ ... **Research Scientists**

**In-situ, airborne, and satellite-based observing systems, media and public are key stakeholders**

# User Needs



- **Citizen's questions** are:
  - What will happen?
  - How? Where?
  - Over what area?
  - When? For how long?
  
- **User's** have shared needs:
  - Baseline hazard inventory
  - Ongoing monitoring of a hazard against baseline
  - Rapid information supply during a crisis
  
- Specific types of users have **additional specific needs**

# Required Observations

To meet user need we need **four main observations**:

## Baseline Topography

- Against which to measure change
- For modelling and visualisation

## Baseline Mapping

- Geology, structure, soils
- Regional to local scale

## Deformation Monitoring

- Sudden change
- Gradual processes

## Seismic Monitoring

- Hazard magnitude
- Depth and location

## ➤ Topographic models:

- Stereoscopy & radar interferometry
- Ground-based surveying tools

## ➤ Supported by:

- Aerial photography and field work
- Various airborne & spaceborne EO

## ➤ Deformation measured by:

- Radar Interferometry (INSAR)
- GPS, and terrestrial LiDAR/INSAR

## ➤ Seismicity measured by:

- In-situ networks of seismometers
- Coverage, density, real time data

Each hazard (e.g. volcanos) needs other observations (e.g. thermal)

# Integration Issues

Infrastructure is required to turn observations into useful information for users, based on knowledge

There are **3 main integration issues**:

- **Data Management** – establishment of strategic datasets: long term; complete; global; validated; geographically registered; accessible; and visible
- **Integration and Modelling** – improved knowledge, on which to base better hazard models; software, to turn data into information products; shared knowledge and experience; an integrated scientific community
- **Capacity Building** – a global geohazard community to support transfer of geohazards data, information, knowledge and technology to users in all countries

# Gap Analysis

## Existing Observations

- e.g. No global high resolution topographic dataset

## Key systems

- e.g. Limited continuity of L and C band INSAR

## Data Management

- e.g. Too few archives are visible and fit for purpose

## Integration and Modelling

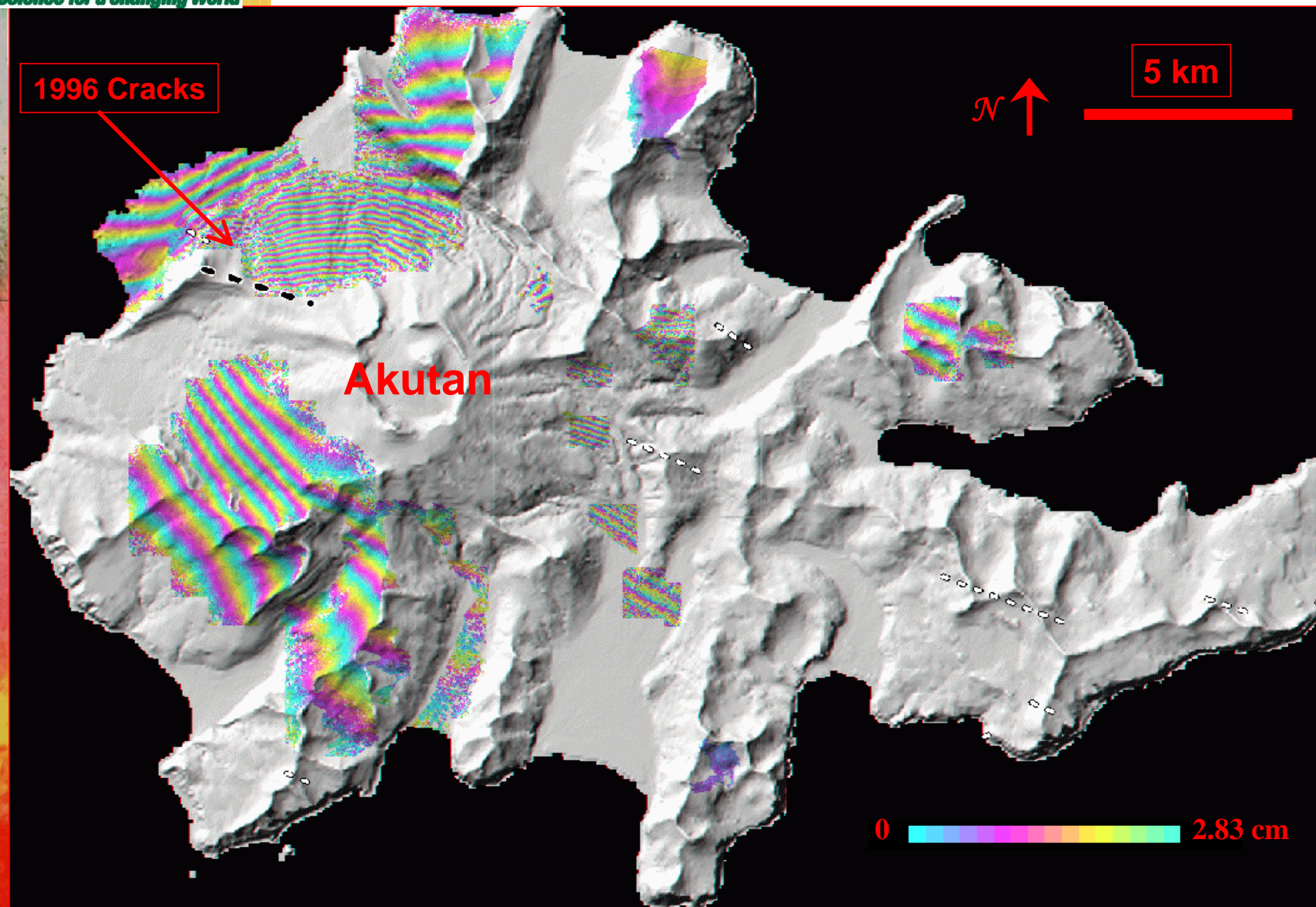
- e.g. In-situ and EO integration happens rarely

## Building the Geohazards Community

- e.g. No global mechanism to implement strategy

## Science Research Agenda

- e.g. Models, knowledge inadequate for prediction





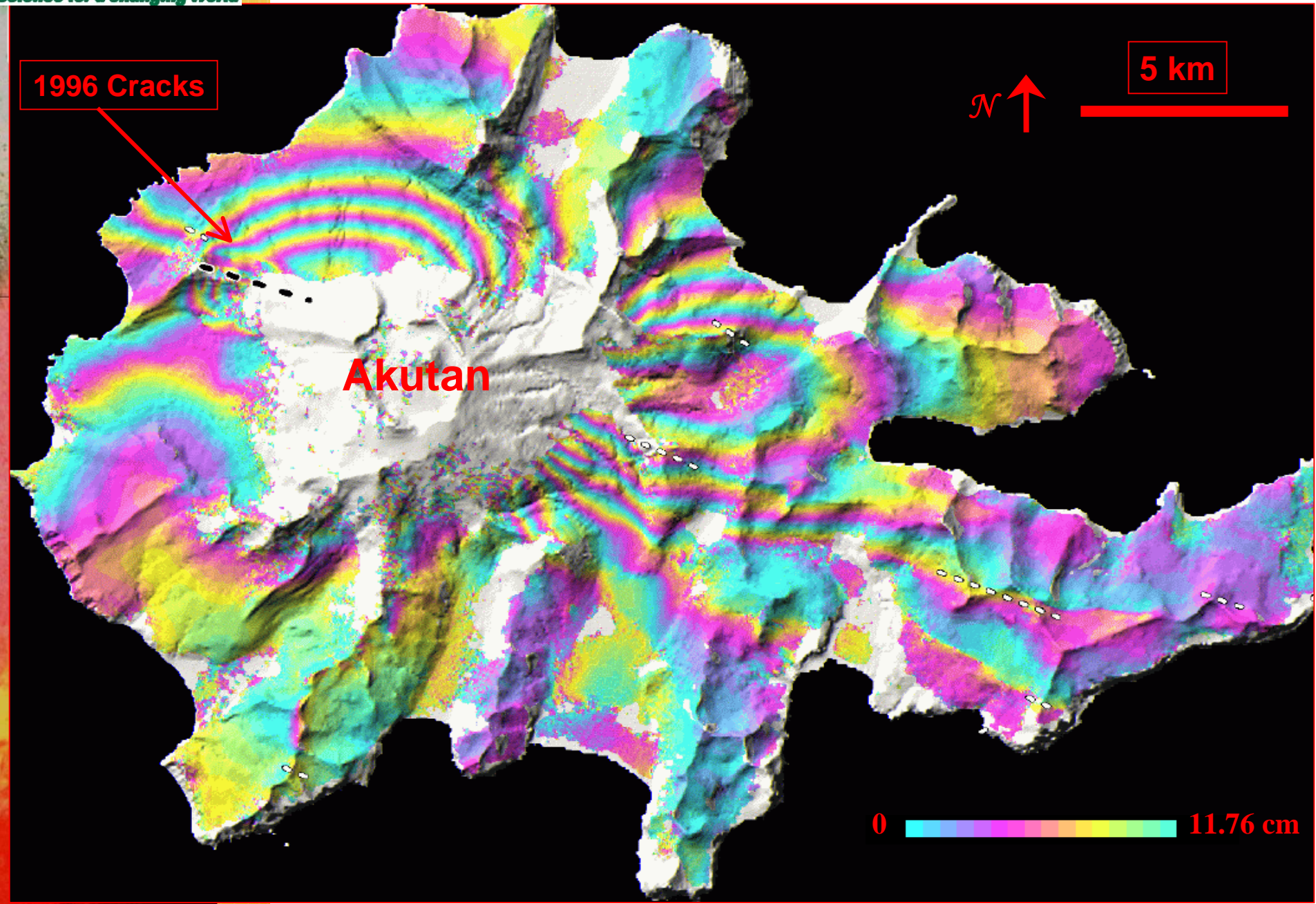
1996 Cracks

5 km



Akutan

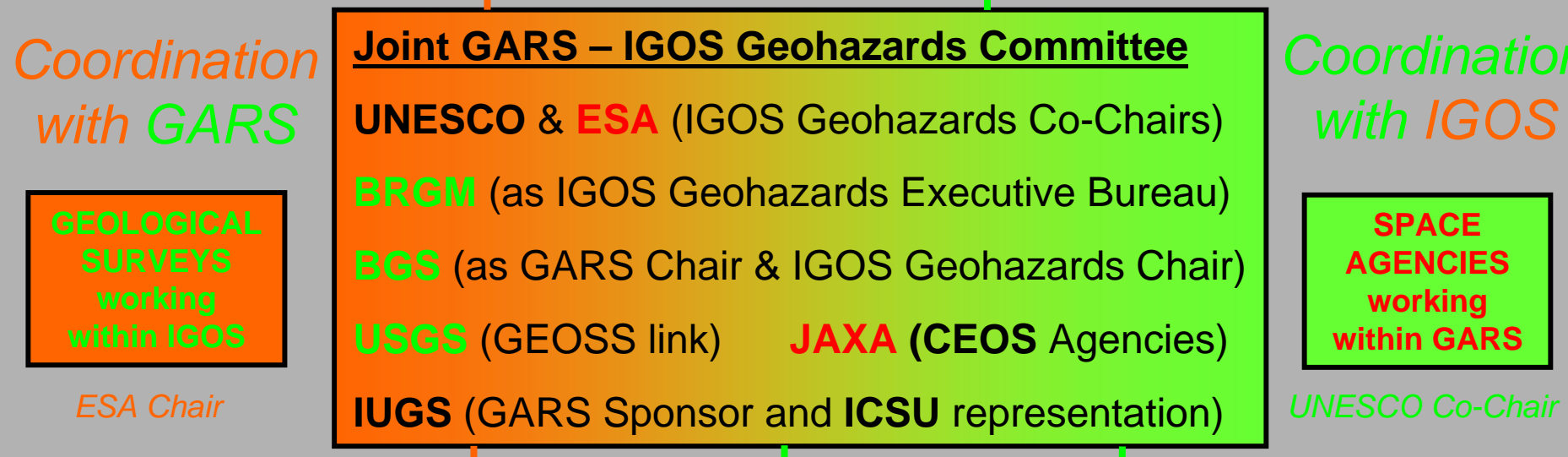
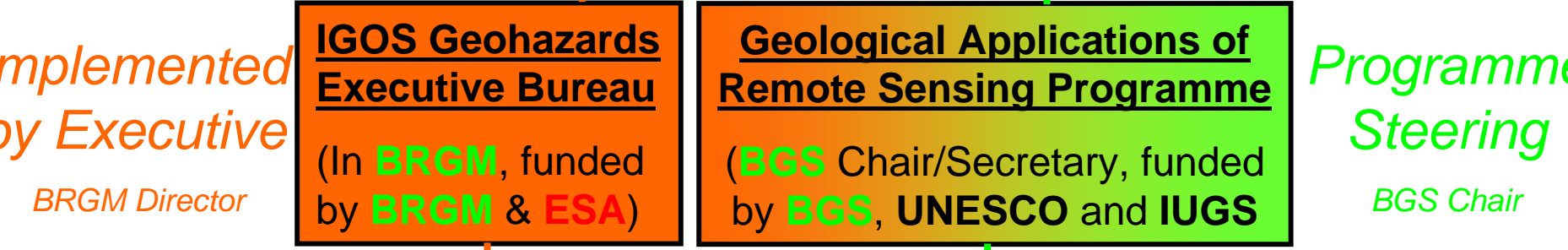
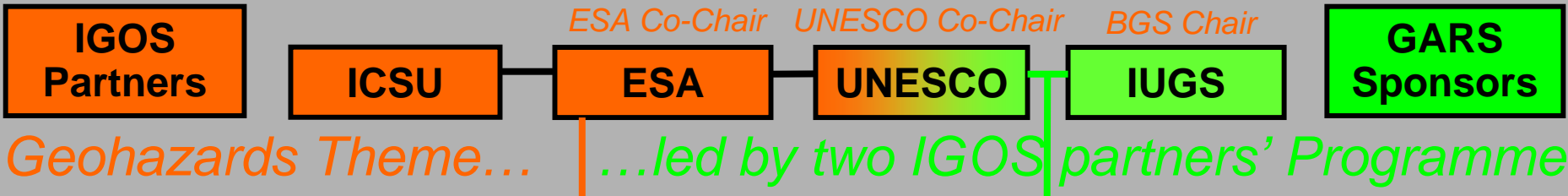
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# Outline

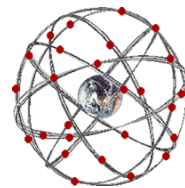
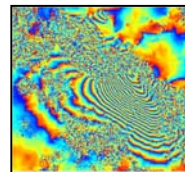
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# Implementation Mechanism



# Implementation Plan Highlights

- Commence **capacity building** through IGOS
  - Develop GARS as implementation mechanism
- Maximise **existing observations**
  - Seek release of SRTM and ASTER DEMs
- Lobby for **new observation tools**
  - L- and C-band radar satellite continuity
- Promote **integration** of data into products
  - Integration of INSAR with GPS networks
- Improve **Infrastructures**
  - Support WOVO and then use as a template
- Increase **knowledge** of geohazard processes
  - Define a global geohazards research agenda



# Attend the 1<sup>st</sup> IGOS Geohazards Workshop, 6-8 April 2005, BRGM

Geological Surveys, Space Agencies, International Bodies, Research Institutes, Private Companies



**British Geological Survey**  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



Géosciences pour une Terre durable  
**brgm**

