

Preparedness and divulgation between 2013 – 2016 for the citizen of Managua for large earthquakes and volcanic eruptions

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Managua, capital city of Nicaragua, has experience in recent time two major earthquakes that partially destroyed the city in 1930 and totally in 1972, taking both the lives of about 15,000 people. INETER, the Nicaraguan entity in charge of monitoring, preparedness/outreach, has been promoting several projects with international organizations as ACSUR-Las Segovias and International Red Cross, with the sponsorship of DIPECHO and funding of the European Community. The major goal of these projects is to strength the preparedness and resilience for the population in order to better confront of volcanic and seismic hazards. The high seismicity in Managua (about 2 million inhabitants in 2016) in the last 2013 – 2016, and the recurrence period of 20 – 40 years for strong earthquakes in a very highly density populated area represent a thread for seismic hazard evaluation. In addition, there are several volcanic alignments (Holocene cinder and maar structures) with N-S trend for 15 km long. These volcanic vents had originated tephra deposits (scoria lapilli and ash) of more than 2 m thick in the western site of the capital. Thus, the volcanic hazards should be also taken in consideration.