



# The ESI 2007 intensity scale and the EEE Catalogue

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and the INQUA #0811 Working Group





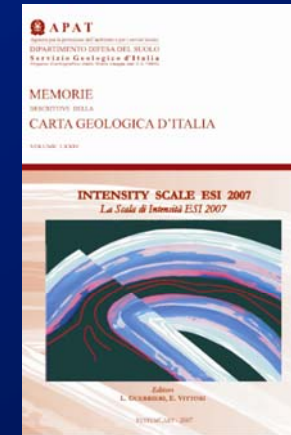
# Summary

- ✓ INQUA TERPRO Subcommittee on Paleoseismicity projects (since 2003)
- ✓ Earthquake Environmental Effects (EEEs) and their use for intensity assessment through the ESI scale.
- ✓ The EEE Catalogue: a tool to compare modern, historical and paleoearthquake
- ✓ Some examples

# INQUA TERPRO Subcommittee on Paleoseismicity projects

## ❖ 2003 XVI INQUA Congress, Reno, USA

An independent assessment of earthquake intensity scale based on ground effects: the INQUA Scale (project #0418).



## ❖ 2007 XVII INQUA Congress, Cairns, Australia

A global catalogue and mapping of Earthquake Environmental Effects (project #0811)

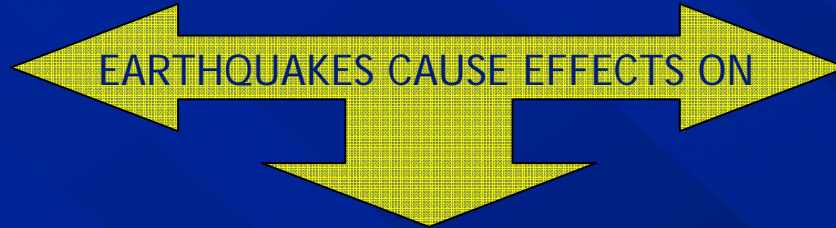


## ❖ 2011 XVIII INQUA Congress, Berna, Switzerland

TO BE DECIDED

## ❖ 2015 XIX INQUA Congress, Nagoya, Japan





NATURAL ENVIRONMENT







# Earthquake Environmental Effects

Earthquake Environmental Effects (EEEs) are any phenomena generated by a seismic event in the natural environment. They can be categorized in two main types:

- ✓ *Primary effects*: the surface expression of the capable tectonic source, including surface faulting, surface uplift and subsidence.
- ✓ *Secondary effects*: phenomena generally induced by the ground shaking. They are conveniently classified into eight main categories: slope movements, ground settlements, ground cracks, hydrological anomalies, anomalous waves (including tsunamis), other effects (tree shaking, dust clouds, jumping stones).



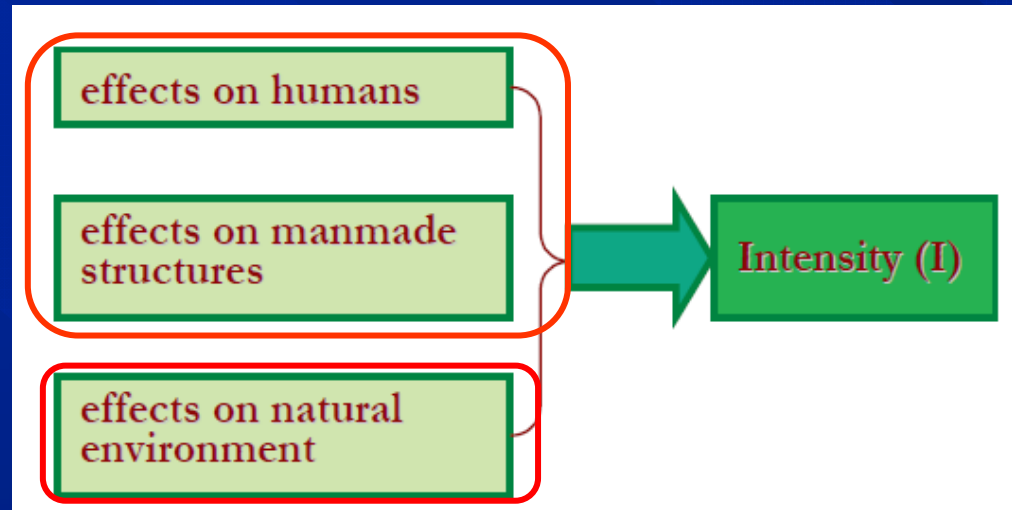
# The ESI 2007 intensity scale (or INQUA scale)

- ✓ A new intensity scale based only on the characteristics, size and distribution of environmental effects (Michetti et al., 2007).
- ✓ The scale was elaborated and tested in the frame of the 2003 - 2007 INQUA TERPRO SubCommission on Paleoseismicity project "An innovative approach for assessing earthquake intensities: the INQUA Scale, based on seismically-induced ground effects in the environment" (ref. INQUA 0418).





# Why a new intensity scale?



Earlier intensity scales (De Rossi, Mercalli, Cancani, Omori, Sieberg) were considering effects on natural environment as a diagnostic elements.

In the second half of the XX century these effects have been progressively disregarded and increasing attention has been paid to the effects on humans and man made structures (MSK and EMS98).



# Structure of the ESI 2007 intensity scale

CHART OF THE INQUA ENVIRONMENTAL SEISMIC INTENSITY SCALE 2007 - ESI 07 (Modified from Silva et al., 2008 and Reicherter et al., 2009)

| ESI-2007           |       | PRIMARY EFFECTS                                  |   | SECONDARY EFFECTS WITH GEOLOGICAL AND GEOMORPHOLOGICAL RECORD |                                   |  |   | OTHER SECONDARY EFFECTS                         |   | AFFECTED AREA AND TYPE OF RECORD |  |
|--------------------|-------|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|---|----------------------------------|--|
|                    |       | SURFACE RUPTURES                                 | TECTONIC UPLIFT/SUBSID                  | GROUND CRACKS   | SLOPE MOVEMENTS                   | LIQUEFACTION PROCESSES   | ANOMALOUS WAVES AND TSUNAMIS                              | HYDROGEOLOGICAL ANOMALIES                       | TREE SHAKING  | Affected AREA                    | Type of RECORD   |
|                    |       | Offset   | Length                                  | Width   | Length                            | ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS ARE VERY RARE AND CANNOT BE USED AS DIAGNOSTIC |   |   |   |                                  |  |
| OBSERVED           | I-III |  |   |   |                                   |  |   |   |   |                                  |  |
|                    | IV    | ABSENT   | ABSENT                                  | Rare and local  | Rare and local                    | Only dewatered levels (seismites)                                    | cm  | Temporary level changes                         |   | Rare and local                   | Geological frequent and exceptionally geomorphological                         |
| DAMAGING           | A     |  |   |   |                                   |  | Temporary sea-level changes                               | Temp. turbidity changes                         |   | Local within epicentral zone     | Geological and geomorphological characteristic and frequently geomorphological |
|                    | VII   | Rare and local                                   | Permanent ground dislocations (< 10 cm) | cm  | mm                                | 50 cm  | dm  | Temporary F+Q changes                           |   | 10 km <sup>2</sup>               |  |
| DESTRUCTIVE        | B     |  |   |   |                                   |  | Waves < 1 m   | Temp. temperature changes                       | Temp. spring drying                                   | 100 km <sup>2</sup>              | Geological and geomorphological characteristic and frequently geomorphological |
|                    | VIII  | cm   | hm                                      | dm  | cm                                | 1 m  | 1-2 m   |   |   | 1,000 km <sup>2</sup>            |  |
| DESTRUCTIVE        | X     | dm   | km                                      | dm  | dm                                | 0.5 m  | 3-5 m   |   |   | 5,000 km <sup>2</sup>            | Geological and geomorphological characteristic and frequently geomorphological |
|                    | XI    | metric   | 10-100 km                               | > 1 m   | > 1 m                             | > 5 m  | > 10 m  |   |   | 10,000 km <sup>2</sup>           |  |
| DESTRUCTIVE        | C     |  |   |   |                                   |  |   |   |   | 50,000 km <sup>2</sup>           | Geological and geomorphological characteristic and frequently geomorphological |
|                    | XII   | > 100 km   | > 10 m                                  | > 5 m   | > 5 m                             | > 5 m  | Giant waves   | Permanent river changes                         |   |                                  |  |
| DESCRIPTON & ICONS |       | Dip and strike-slip offset of coseismic ruptures | Permanent ground dislocation            | Width and length of cracks and fractures in soils and rocks   | Bulk volume of mobilised material | Dimension of liquified levels and sand boils                         | Transitory sea-level changes, standing waves and Tsunamis | Base-level changes in springs, rivers, aquifers | Tree branches and tree-trunk falling, rupture, etc... |                                  |  |

**KEY REFERENCES**

- Michetti et al., 2007. Environmental Seismic Intensity scale - ESI 2007. Memorie Descrittive della Carta Geologica d'Italia, 74. Servizio Geologico d'Italia, APAT, Rome, Italy
- Silva et al., 2008. Catalogue of the geological and environmental effects of earthquakes in Spain in the ESI-2007 Macroseismic scale. Cong. Geol. Esp. Gran Canaria, Spain
- Reicherter, K., Michetti, A.M., Silva, P.G., 2009. Paleoseismology: Historical and Prehistorical Record of Earthquake Ground Effects. Geol. Soc. London Spec. Publ. 316. 324 pp. GSL Publishing Hous, London, UK.









# ESI 2007 vs traditional intensity scales

- ✓ **From I to III:** There are no environmental effects that can be used as diagnostic.
- ✓ **From IV to IX:** Environmental effects are easily observable starting from intensity IV, and often permanent and diagnostic especially starting from intensity VII. However, they are necessarily less suitable for intensity assessment than effects on humans and manmade structures. Their use is therefore recommended especially in sparsely populated areas;
- ✓ **From X to XII:** Effects on humans and manmade structures saturate, while environmental effects become dominant; in fact, several types of environmental effects do not suffer saturation in this range. Thus, environmental effects are the most effective tool to evaluate the intensity.

# Diagnostic ranges of intensity degrees

|   | Environmental effects               | Diagnostic range<br>of intensity<br>degrees |      |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|------|
|   |                                     | VIII (*)                                    | XII  |
|   | SURFACE FAULTING<br>AND DEFORMATION |   |      |
| A | HYDROLOGICAL<br>ANOMALIES           | IV  | X    |
| B | ANOMALOUS<br>WAVES/TSUNAMIS         | IV  | XII  |
| C | GROUND CRACKS                       | IV  | X    |
| D | SLOPE MOVEMENTS                     | IV  | X    |
| E | TREE SHAKING                        | IV  | XI   |
| F | LIQUEFACTIONS                       | V   | X    |
| G | DUST CLOUDS                         | VIII  | VIII |
| H | JUMPING STONES                      | IX  | XII  |



# Epicentral intensity ( $I_0$ )

✓ Epicentral intensity ( $I_0$ ) is defined as the intensity of shaking at epicenter, i.e. what intensity we would get, if there were a locality that matches the epicenter.

✓ Surface faulting parameters and total area of distribution of secondary effects (landslides and/or liquefactions) are two independent tools to assess  $I_0$  on the basis of environmental effects, starting from the intensity VII.

| $I_0$<br>Intensity | PRIMARY EFFECTS         |  | SECONDARY EFFECTS       |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
|                    | SURFACE RUPTURE LENGTH  | MAX SURFACE DISPLACEMENT / DEFORMATION | TOTAL AREA              |
| IV                 | -                       | -                                      | -                       |
| V                  | -                       | -                                      | -                       |
| VI                 | -                       | -                                      | -                       |
| VII                | (*)                     | (*)                                    | 10 km <sup>2</sup>      |
| VIII               | Several hundreds meters | Centimetric                            | 100 km <sup>2</sup>     |
| IX                 | 1- 10 km                | 5 - 40 cm                              | 1000 km <sup>2</sup>    |
| X                  | 10 - 60 km              | 40 - 300 cm                            | 5000 km <sup>2</sup>    |
| XI                 | 60 - 150 km             | 300 - 700 cm                           | 10000 km <sup>2</sup>   |
| XII                | > 150 km                | > 700 cm                               | > 50000 km <sup>2</sup> |



# 26.03.1872 Owens Valley (California, USA)

M=7.6

SRL>110 km

MD≥10m

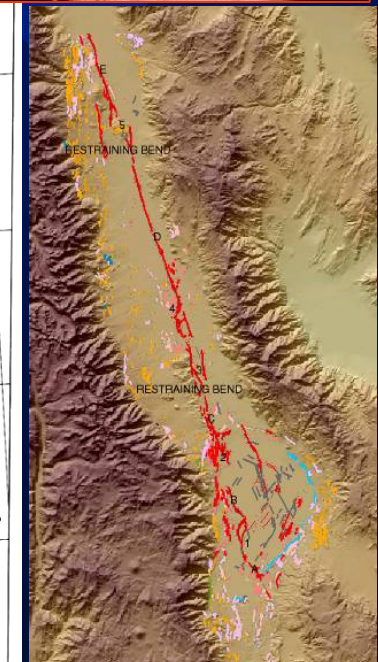
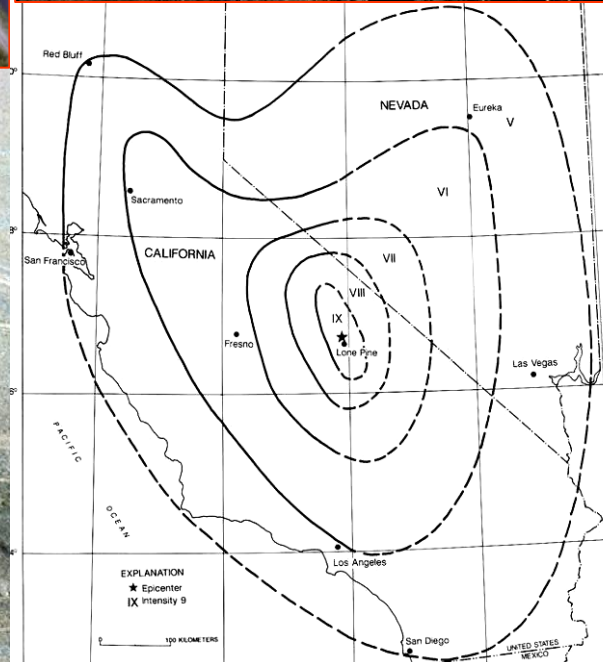
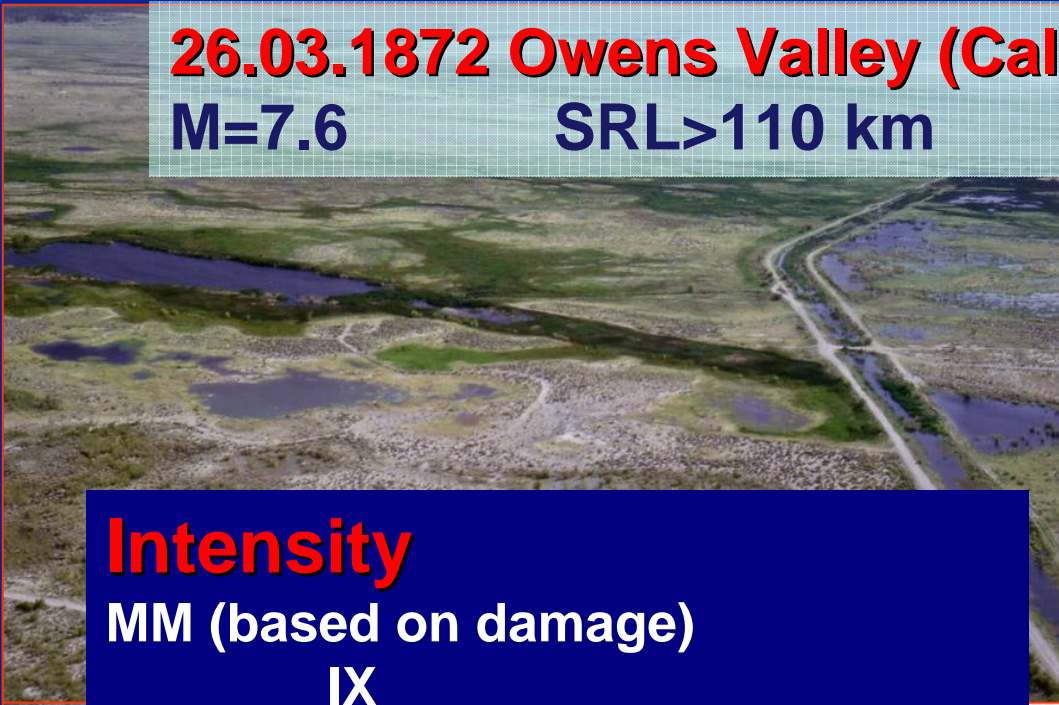
**Intensity**

MM (based on damage)

IX

ESI 2007

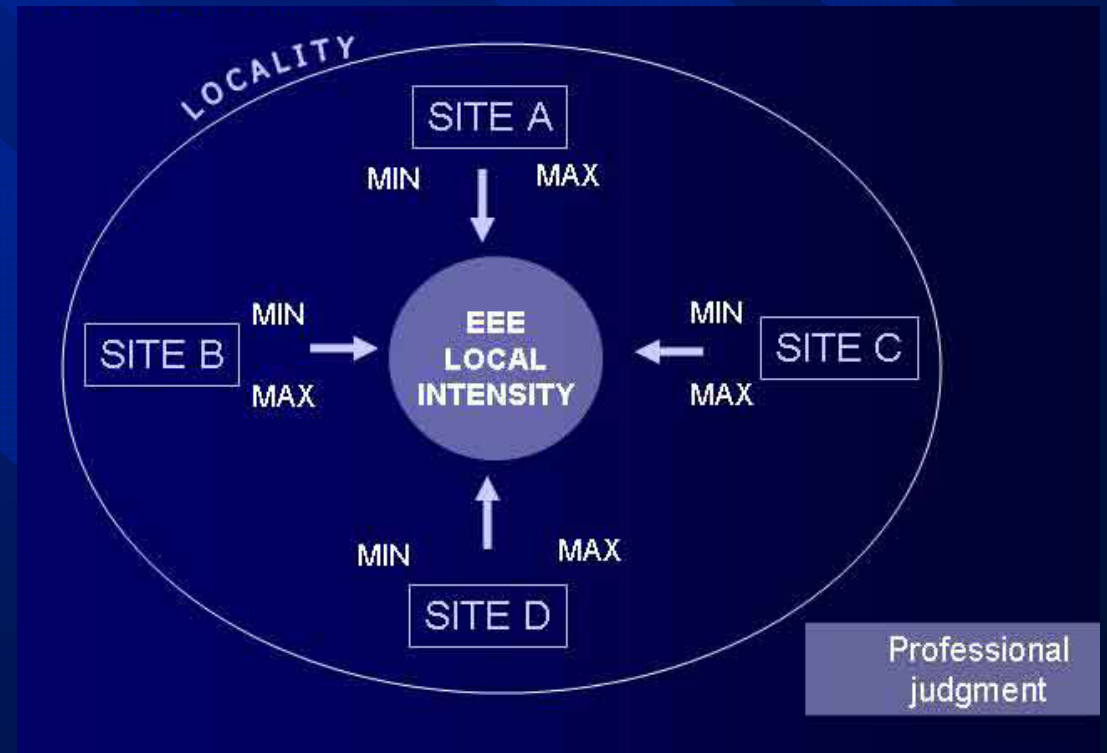
XI



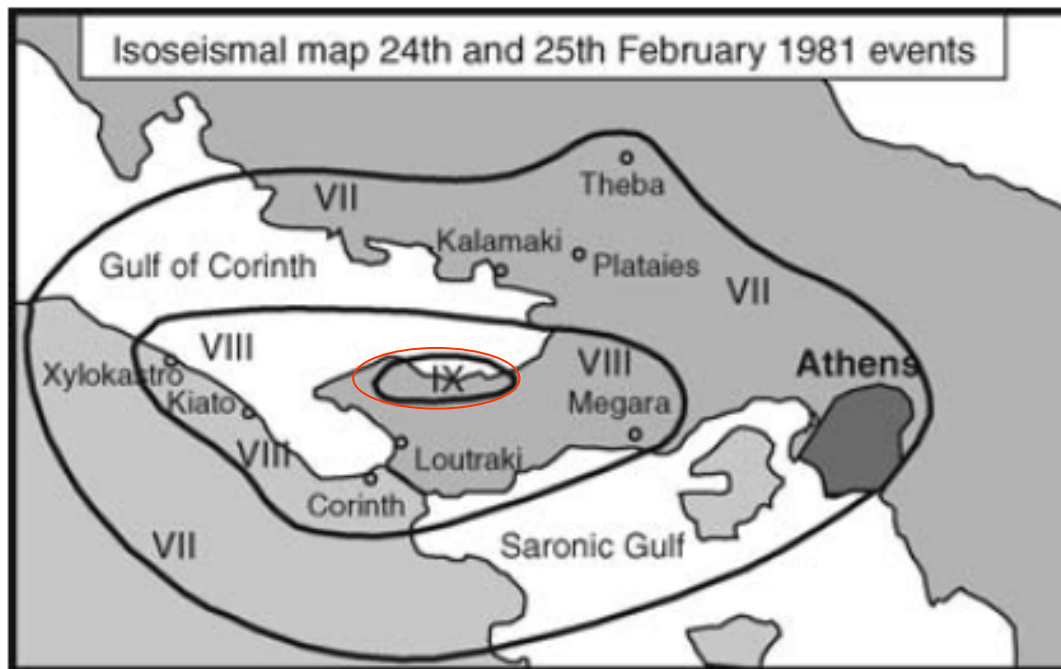


# ESI local intensity

- ✓ ESI local intensity has to be evaluated at the same scale of the local intensity deriving from traditional macroseismic scales.
- ✓ It is generally assessed through the description of secondary effects, but even the local expression of primary effects, in terms of maximum displacement of a fault segment, may contribute to its evaluation.
- ✓ Since the descriptions of environmental effects are not homogeneously surveyed over the territory, which is common for historical earthquakes, it is recommended to use the Locality - Site approach



## 1981 Alkyonides earthquake sequence (Ms 6.7, 6.4 and 6.3) (after Papanikolaou et al., 2009)



*MS intensity distribution (up to IX)*





*West of Alepochori 50–60 cm of subsidence was observed, flooding up to 50 m of the former shore (Mariolakos et al. 1982).*



*Surface ruptures on the Plataies–Kaparelli fault zone during the 4 March event, producing 50–60 cm of throw (70 cm of displacement).*

### VIII

Heavily damaging –  
Extensive effects on the  
environment

Primary effects observed rarely. Ground ruptures (surface faulting) may develop, up to several hundred meters long, with offsets not exceeding a few cm, particularly for very shallow focus earthquakes. Tectonic subsidence or uplift with maximum values on the order of a few centimetres may occur.

### IX

Destructive – Environmental effects are a widespread source of considerable hazard and become important for intensity assessment

Primary effects observed commonly. Ground ruptures (surface faulting) develop, up to a few km long, with offsets generally in the order of several cm. Tectonic subsidence or uplift of the ground surface with maximum values in the order of a few decimetres may occur.

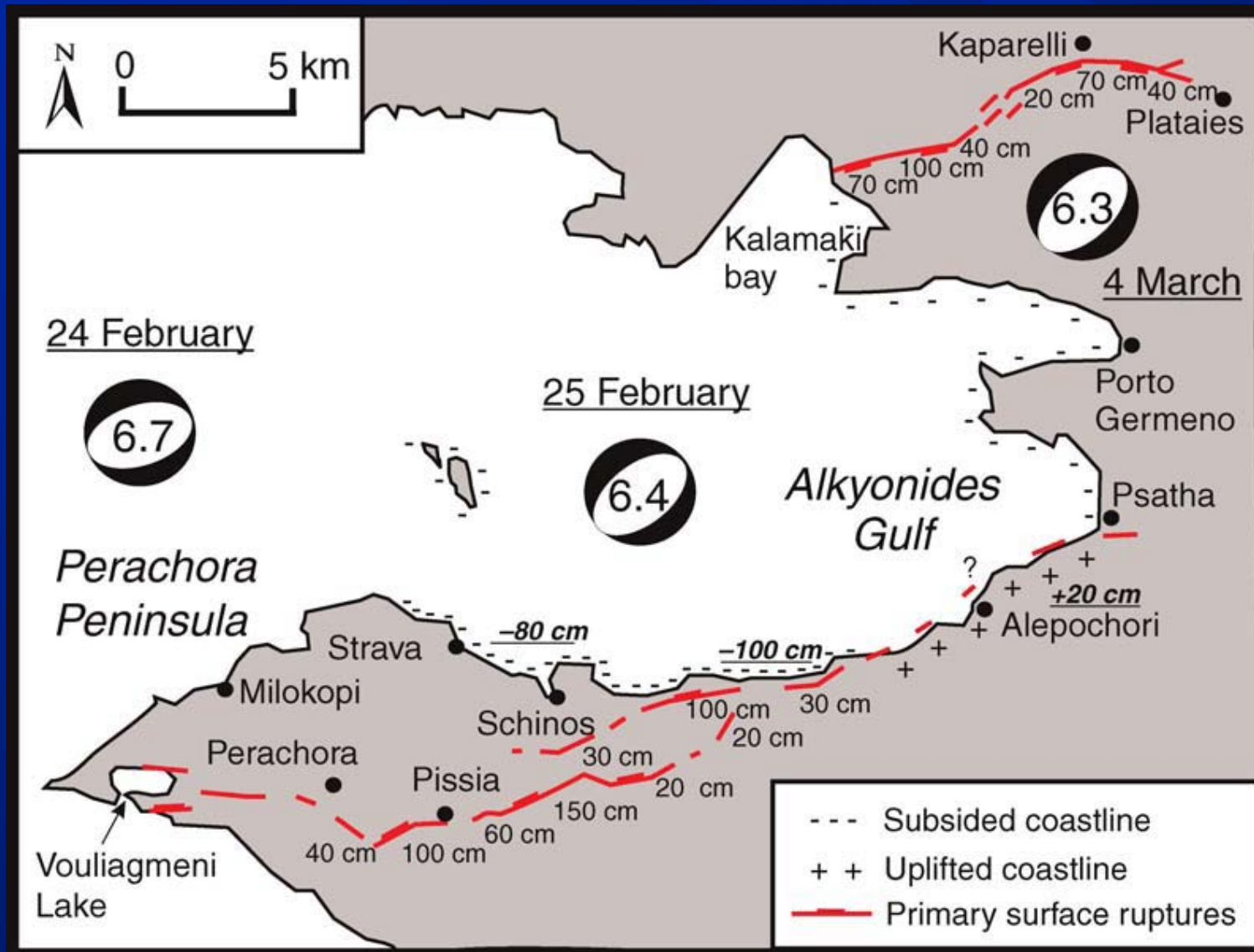
### X

Very destructive – Effects in the environment become a leading source of hazards and are critical for intensity assessment

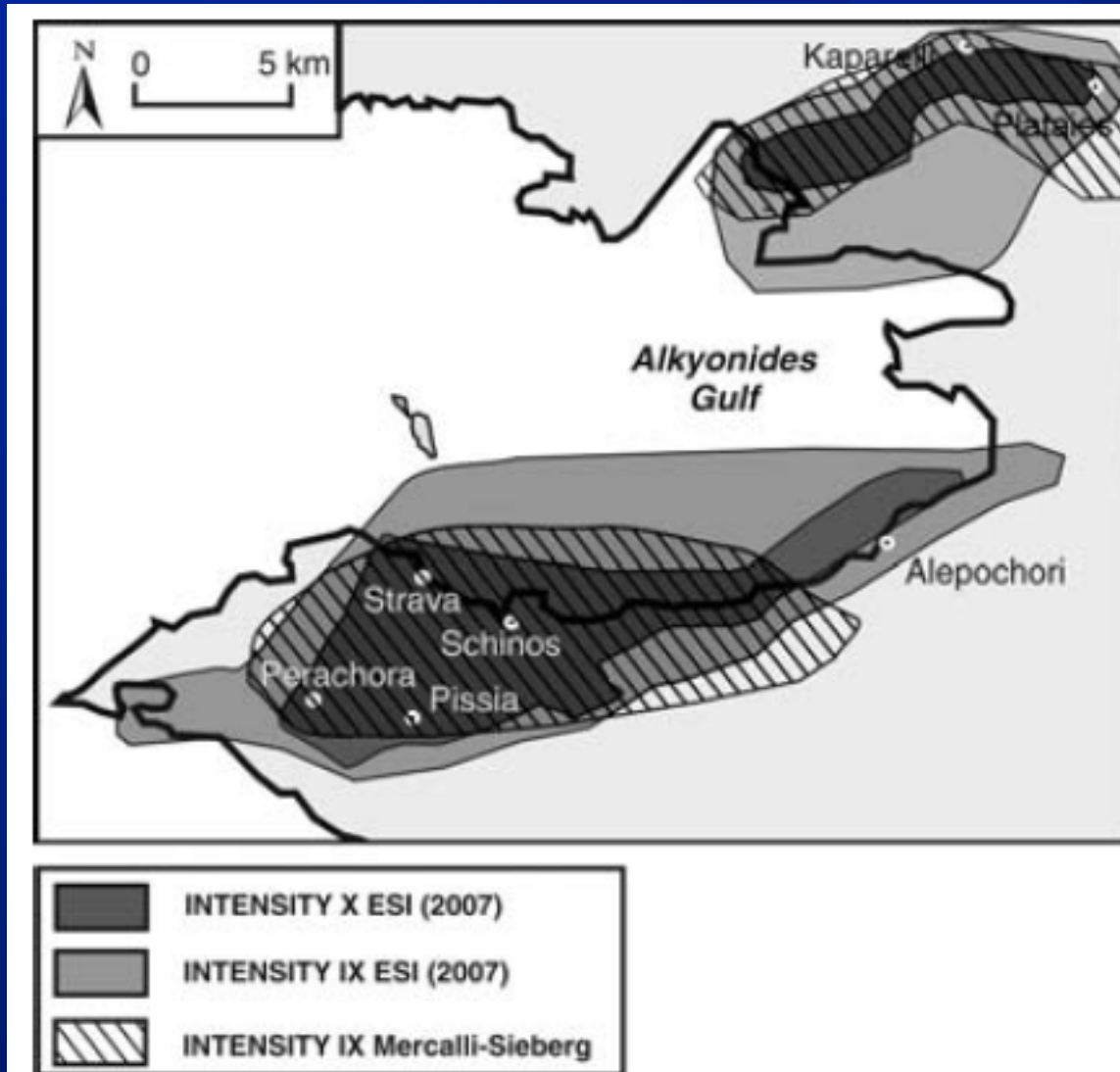
Primary ruptures become leading. Surface faulting can extend for few tens of km, with offsets from tens of cm up to a few metres. Gravity grabens and elongated depressions develop; Tectonic subsidence or uplift with maximum values in the order of few meters may occur.



# 1981 Alkyonides surface faulting distribution



## Comparison between MS and ESI 2007 intensities








## Added value of ESI 2007

- ✓ The ESI 2007 added value is particularly clear in case damages to buildings:
  - 1) are lacking, such as in desert or sparsely populated areas;
  - 2) suffer from saturation, i.e. the earthquake causes the total collapse of buildings (X intensity degree in Italy).

In these cases, effects on natural environment are the best tool, often the only one, to "measure" the earthquake intensity.

- ✓ Moreover, intensity values based on environmental effects are more widely comparable than damages to buildings since they are not influenced by local socio-economic conditions.
- ✓ Some environmental morphogenetic effects can be stored in the paleoseismological record, allowing to expand the time window for seismic hazard assessment up to tens of thousands of years.

## Translated in eight languages

- ✓ Environmental Seismic Intensity Scale - ESI 2007 
- ✓ La scala di intensità sismica ESI 2007 
- ✓ Escala medio-ambiental de intensidad sismica ESI 2007 
- ✓ ESI 2007 Intensitätsskala 
- ✓ ESIの2007年の震度 
- ✓ Шкала сейсмической интенсивности на основании природных эффектов - ESI 2007 
- ✓ Η μακροσεισμική κλίμακα έντασης ESI 2007 
- ✓ Seismische intensiteitschaal op basis van omgevingseffecte 



**Earthquake Environmental Effects,  
intensity and seismic hazard assessment:  
the ESI intensity scale and the EEE Catalogue**



✓ Available on-line at  
[http://www.isprambiente.gov.it/site/en-GB/Projects/INQUA\\_Scale/Documents\\_/](http://www.isprambiente.gov.it/site/en-GB/Projects/INQUA_Scale/Documents_/)

Memorie Descrittive Carta Geologica d'Italia  
 Vol. xyz  
 2011

DRAFT



# EEE Catalogue

The EEE Catalogue:  
A catalogue of Earthquake Environmental Effects



INQUA  
International Union for Quaternary Research

INQUA TERPRO project 0811



## Why the EEE Catalogue is timely?

- ✓ A huge amount of information of EEEs is now available
- ✓ Lessons from recent earthquakes clearly pointed out the relevance of EEEs for SHA purposes
- ✓ The recent development of web GIS applications and geographic interface based on Google Earth allow to disseminate collected data over a geographic interface.



## Objective

To collect in a standard format the wealth of information of environmental / geological effects induced by seismic events, in order to:

- ✓ bridge a gap between recent, historical and paleoearthquakes;
- ✓ allow a more objective comparison among them, taking advantage from the application of the ESI scale.

## Data sources

- ✓ Surveys on EEEs (from remote and field observations)
- ✓ Historical contemporary documents
- ✓ Paleoseismological papers





## INQUA Project #0811 Team

Ruben Tatevossian (Russia), Eugene Rogozhin (Russia)  
Takashi Azuma (Japan), Yoko Ota (Japan), Niklas Mörner (Sweden)  
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Alessandro M. Michetti (Italy), Luca Guerrieri (Italy), Eutizio Vittori (Italy)  
Bagher and Jody Mohammadioun (France-USA), Pablo Silva (Espana)  
Klaus Reicherter (Germany), Christoph Grutzner (Germany) Shmulik Marco (Israel),  
Rifka Amit (Israel), Sabina Porfido (Italy),  
Eliana Esposito (Italy), Miguel Rodriguez Pascua (Espana),  
Amos Salamon (Israel), Anna Maria Blumetti (Italy), Valerio Comerci (Italy),  
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Mohammed Abdel Aziz (Egypt), Frank Audemard (Venezuela),  
Nina Lin (Taiwan), Manuel Sintubin (Belgium)  
Claudia Lalinde (Colombia), Silvia Mosquera (Colombia),  
Yolanda Zamudio (Peru) , Kervin Chunga (Ecuador), Ioannis Papanikolau (Greece)

and many others.....



# Web Implementation interface

<http://www.eeecatalog.sinanet.apat.it/login.php>

Page 1 of 4 Records 1 to 20 of 62 Page Size 20

Add

| Age Earthquake | Earthquake Code (*) | Year | Month (*) | Day (*) | Epical Area (*)         | Country  | Surface faulting type                  | Magnitude (*) | Magnitude Type (*) | Intensity Type | ESI Epicentral Intensity | Reference for seismologic data        | Authors  |
|----------------|---------------------|------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|----------|--|---------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Instrumental   | SP20110511          | 2011 | 05        | 11      | Lorca, Murcia           | Spain    | Hypotesized based on site observations | 5.1 Mw        | Mw                 | EMS            | 7                        |                                       | P.G. Silva Rodríguez Pascua, Pérez López J.J. Martí Díaz |
| Instrumental   | IT20090406m         | 2009 | 04        | 06      | L'Aquila, Abruzzo       | Italy    | Surveyed rupture zone                  | 6.3 Mw        | Mw                 | MCS            | 9                        | Chiarabba et al., 2009                | Lippmann   |
| Instrumental   | GR20080608m         | 2008 | 06        | 08      | Peloponnesus            | Greece   | Surveyed rupture zone                  | 6.4 Mw        | Mw                 | EMS            | 9                        | Koukouvelas et alii, 2010             | Lucarini M. Brustia E.                                   |
| Instrumental   | CH20080512m         | 2008 | 05        | 12      | Wenchuan                | China    |  | 7.9 Mw        | Mw                 | EMS            | 12                       |                                       | E. Lekkas  |
| Instrumental   | PK20051008m         | 2005 | 10        | 08      | Muzaffarabad            | Pakistan |  | 7.6 Mw        | Mw                 | MM             | 11                       |                                       | Ali, Michele A.M. Rigamonti E.                           |
| Instrumental   | SP20050129          | 2005 | 01        | 29      | La Paca, Murcia         | Spain    |  | 4.8 Mb        | Mb                 | EMS            | 6                        |                                       | P.G. Silva   |
| Instrumental   | JP20041023m         | 2004 | 10        | 23      | Chuetsu, Nijgata region | Japan    |  | 6.6 Mw        | Mw                 | JMA            |                          |                                       | Ota Y. & Azuma T.  |
| Instrumental   | IS20040211          | 2004 | 02        | 11      | Northern Dead Sea       | Israel   |  |               |                    |                |                          |                                       | A. Salam   |
| Instrumental   | GR20030814m         | 2003 | 08        | 14      | Lefkada Island          | Greece   |  | 6.2 Mw        | Mw                 | EMS            | 8                        |                                       | Papathanasopoulos G.                                     |
| Instrumental   | RU20030927m         | 2003 | 09        | 27      | Altai                   | Russia   |  | 7.2 Mw        | Mw                 | MSK            | 10                       | ISC                                   | R.E. Tatevossian   |
| Instrumental   | US20021103m         | 2002 | 11        | 3       | Denali, Alaska          | U.S.A.   | Surveyed rupture zone                  | 7.9 Mw        | MW                 |                |                          | Donna Eberhart-Phillips, et al., 2003 | Banfi D., Comerchi V. Michetti                           |
| Instrumental   | TW19990920m         | 1999 | 09        | 20      | Chi-chi                 | Taiwan   | Surveyed rupture                       | 7.3 Mw        | Mw                 | JMA            | 11                       | CWB99                                 | Lin-Wong   |





# Public Viewing interface

<http://www.eeecatalog.sinanet.apat.it/terremoti.php>

Public version of the EEE Catalogue based on Google Earth

EEE - Earthquake Envi x +  
www.eeecatalog.sinanet.apat.it/terremoti/index.php

SINAnet INQUA International Union for Quaternary Research EEE Catalogue ISPRA Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale

Welcome to the EEE Catalogue How to view the data? Project page Contacts

Control panel

Navigation

EEE Catalog

- 2011/05/11, Lorca, Murcia, Spain
- [2009/04/06, L'Aquila, Abruzzo, Italy \(photo: 28\)](#)
- [2008/06/08, Peloponnesus, Greece \(photo: 22\)](#)
- [2005/10/08, Muzaffarabad, Pakistan \(photo: 90\)](#)
- 2005/01/29, La Paca, Murcia, Spain
- 2004/10/23, Chuetsu, Nijgata region, Japan
- 2003/09/27, Altai, Russia
- 2003/08/14, Lefkada Island, Greece
- [2002/11/3, Denali, Alaska, U.S.A. \(photo: 10\)](#)
- [1999/09/20, Chi-chi, Taiwan \(photo: 5\)](#)
- 1999/08/17, Izmit, Turkey
- 1999/02/02, Mula, Murcia, Spain
- 1999/01/25, Armenia, Colombia
- [1997/09/26, Colfiorito, Italy \(photo: 45\)](#)
- 1995/05/27, Neftegorsk, Sakhalin Island, Russia
- [1995/01/17, Kobe, Japan \(photo: 32\)](#)
- [1992/10/18, Murindo, Colombia \(photo: 5\)](#)

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image IBCAO  
Image © 2011 GeoEye  
© 2011 Cnes/Spot Image  
34°19'30.62"N 104°45'08.26"E elev.2247 m

©2010 Google  
Termini e condizioni d'uso  
Alt 11980.01 km



# EARTHQUAKE LEVEL: SUMMARY DESCRIPTION



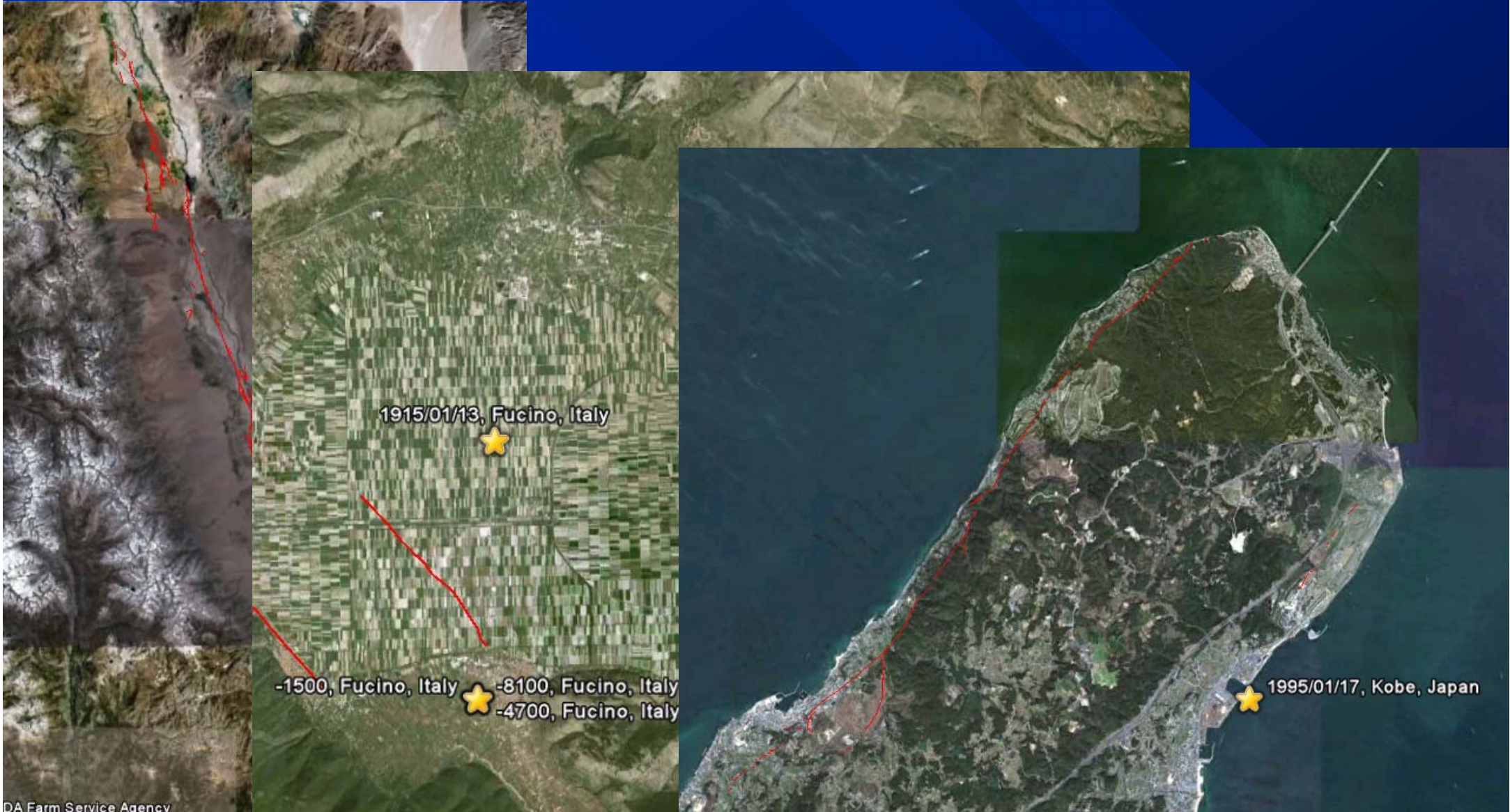
1703/02/02, L'Aquila, Abruzzo, Italy

## Earthquake Description

Date: **1703/02/02**  
Epicentral Area: **L'Aquila, Abruzzo**  
Country: **Italy**  
Magnitude: **6.6**  
Magnitude Type: **Mw**  
Damage based epicentral intensity: **10**  
Intensity Type: **MCS**  
SRL: **10**  
MaxD: **0.6**  
Surface faulting type: **Hypotesized based on site observations**  
Slip type: **normal**  
Total area of secondary effects: **1000**  
Number of effects: **19**  
Esi Epicentral Intensity: **10**  
Reference for seismological data: **9**  
Authors: **Blumetti A.M.**

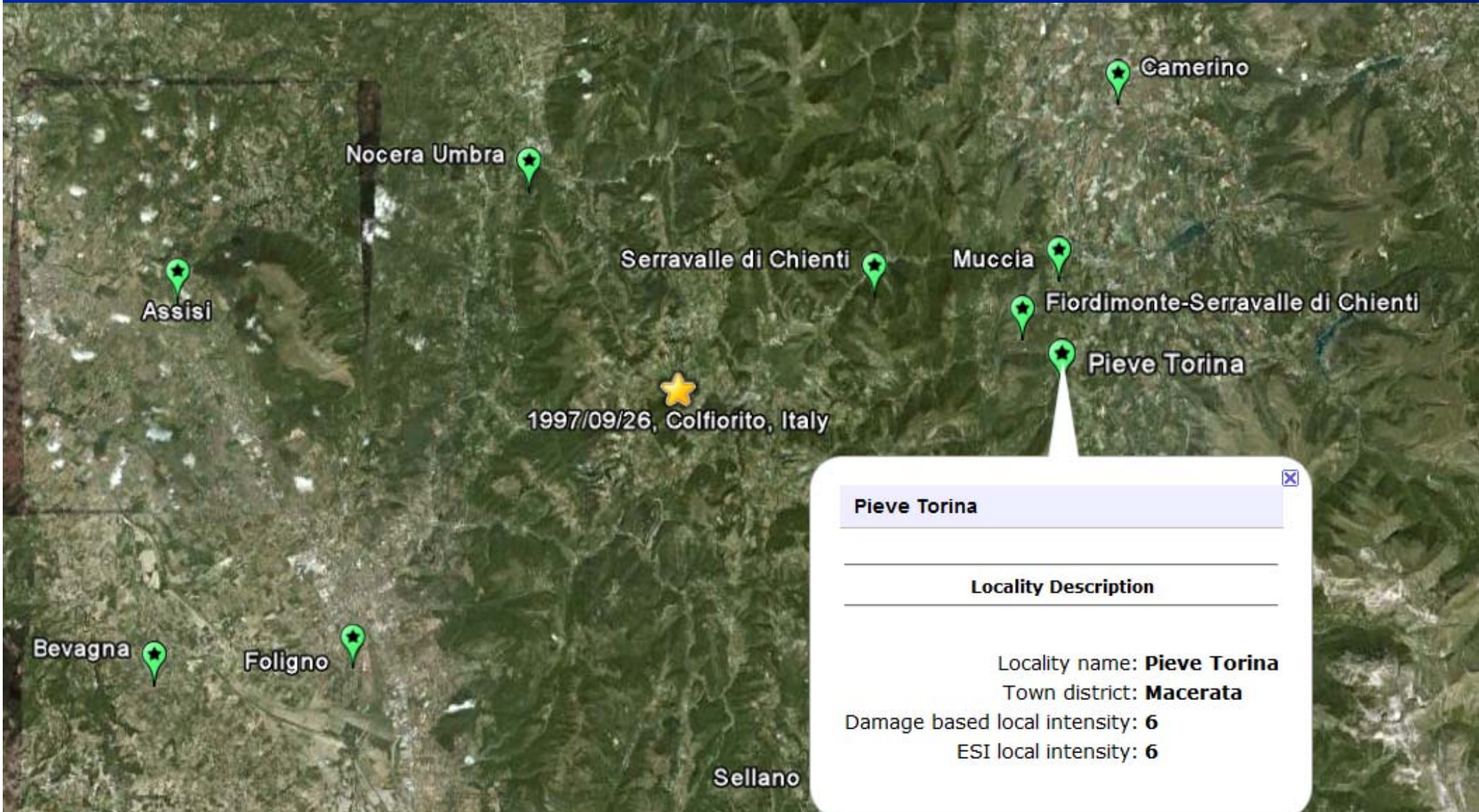


# EARTHQUAKE LEVEL: RUPTURE ZONES





# LOCALITY LEVEL: LOCAL INTENSITIES







# SITE LEVEL: EEE DESCRIPTION

Open/close info panel

EEE  
Earthquake Environmental Effects Catalogue

Image info:

Fault exposure at junior high school running track  
in Wu Feng

Close Gallery



5/5 Epicentral Area: Chi-chi Locality: Taichung County Site Name: WUFENG 103



Image © 2011 DigitalGlobe

34°40'19.55"N 135°12'14.82"E elev 4 m

Termini e condizioni d'uso

Alt 59.56 km



# Added value

The EEE Catalogue will point out:

- the most vulnerable zones in terms of EEEs in an area hit by a strong earthquake;

Messina (Capitaneria di Porto) (photo: 1)

---

Sites Description

---

Name: **Messina (Capitaneria di Porto)**  
 Type of effects: **Ground settlement**  
 EEE description: **E l'abbassamento della spiaggia, che venne osservato fra Messina e il caposaldo 8A, che trovasi verso il Nord della città, e fra Bagnara e la Fiumara dell'Oliveto sulla costa Calabra, il quale abbassamento raggiunge 71 cm. alla Capitaneria del porto di Messina e 58 cm. a Reggio, fu semplicemente prodotto, come sembra più probabile, dal franamento del cordone litoraneo per effetto della scossa del terremoto.**  
 References for description: **Rizzo G.B. (1911). Sulla propagazione dei movimenti prodotti dal terremoto di Messina del 28 dicembre 1908, Memorie della Reale Accademia delle Scienze, s. II, 61, 355-417.**

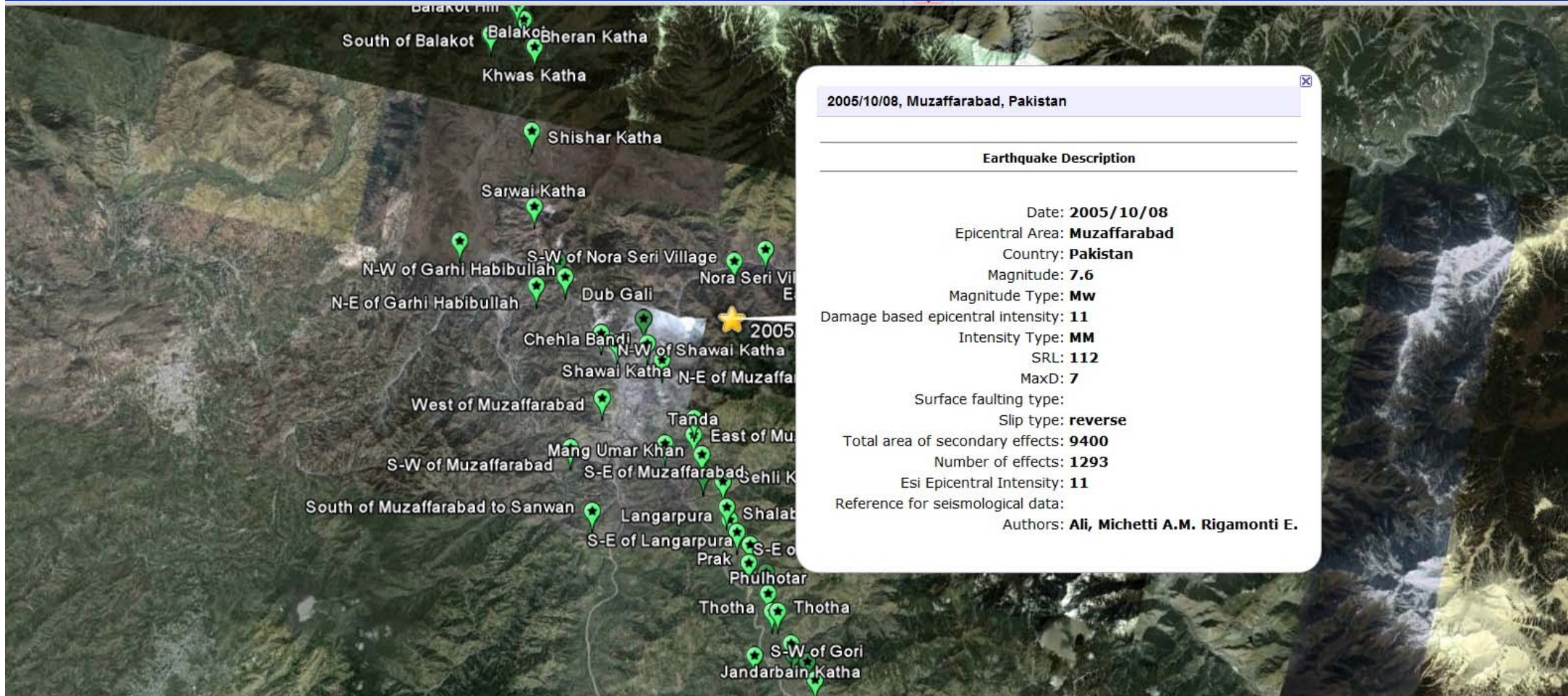
Click on the image to access the gallery



# Added value

The EEE Catalogue will point out:

- an independent seismic intensity evaluation through the ESI scale.

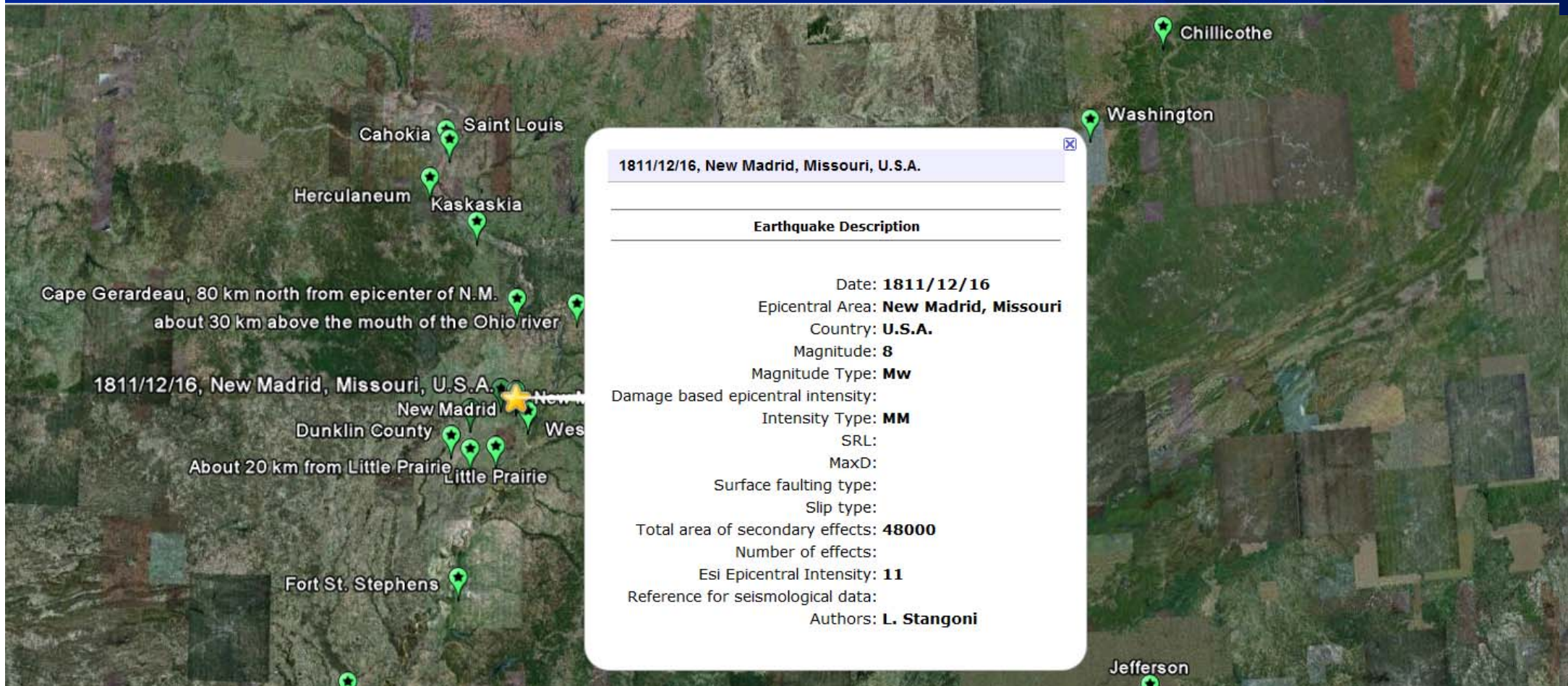




# Added value

The EEE Catalogue will point out:

- an independent seismic intensity evaluation through the ESI scale.







## Some examples

- 2009 L'Aquila
- 1703 L'Aquila
- 1980 Irpinia
- 2002 Murindo
- 2003 Lefkada



## Final remarks

- Recent earthquakes have confirmed the primary role of EEEs for SHA;
- The EEE Catalogue infrastructure is ready for a standard data collection of EEEs. It is a very helpful tool in emergency conditions;
- It will be always under implementation. But it needs to identify priorities in data collection (geographic, temporal, magnitude threshold, type of effects, etc.);
- Potential links with other initiatives encourage this data collection effort.