

MAP



GAC

Internal Newsletter of the Multinational Andean Project: Geoscience for Andean Communities

<http://www.pma-map.com/gac/>

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



Project design team meets with senior officials of PROGRAMA REGIONAL PARA EL DESARROLLO DEL SUR DEL ECUADOR (PREDESUR) in Loja, Ecuador. The organization will be one of the partners in the MAP:GAC project.

Project Design Team Update

Dr. Catherine Hickson, Dr. Mark Stasiuk, Mr. Mike Ellerbeck, Mr. Otto Krauth, Mr. Rob Cocking and Mr. Andrew Makepeace all from the Vancouver office of the, G.S.C. (Pacific Division) travelled to South America in November 2001 to conclude the original MAP project with a presentation of products at the XI Congreso Latinoamericano de Geología and the III Congreso Uruguay and hold the first executive council meeting for the “Multinational Andean Project: Geoscience for Andean Communities (MAP:GAC)”.

On Friday, November 16, the first Executive Council meeting was held. The meeting was attended by 18 people, including the National Directors of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. The meeting started with a statement by MAP Executive Secretary Lic. Roberto Page on what lessons the group could learn from the experiences of MAP. This was followed by a review of the overall principles of MAP:GAC as a CIDA sponsored-GSC managed project. Funding was reviewed and the countries were made aware of the responsibilities of their institutions.

Fernando Repetto, a UNESCO program specialist, gave a presentation to the meeting about a UNESCO project in Central America which may be of interest to MAP:GAC participants.

The group then finalized the wording of the general scientific and management principles of the new

project. A document “Marco Conceptual del Proyecto (“Project Conceptual Framework”) was completed and the ten page document of Agreements was signed during a celebratory dinner (sponsored by Natural Resources Canada) held in the evening to mark the close of MAP and the beginning of the project design phase of MAP:GAC.

At the end of the week the MAP Project Design Team (Hickson, Stasiuk and Ellerbeck) left Uruguay to continue the individual country visits.

Ibero-American Association of National Directors of Emergency Management

On October 23, 2001 Hickson, Ellerbeck and Stasiuk attended the first day of a 5 day conference of the Ibero-American Association of National Directors of Emergency Management, as invitees representing Canada on a panel of attending countries. This was Canada’s first representation to this group made

up of all Latin American countries, Portugal and Spain. The conference is an annual event and provides an important venue for communication of methodologies, planning of strategies, and initiation of agreements, designed to prevent or minimize the impact of disasters. Hickson and Ellerbeck gave an invited presentation to the attendees, describing the concept of the MAP:GAC project. The presentation was the focus of the conference’s section on strategies for international projects and cooperation. The presentation was well received and initiated a series of informal and enthusiastic meetings with the Directors of Emergency Management from Chile, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador, who were highly supportive of the concept. Directly after Hickson and Ellerbeck’s presentation, the National Director of the Chilean national geoscience agency (SERNAGEOMIN), Ing. Ricardo Troncoso, made a presentation to the same group on the important advantages that have been provided by the MAP project, the critical relevance of the national geoscience agencies to the mitigation and management of natural hazards, and the importance of partnerships between the geoscience and emergency management agencies.

Project Design Phase

The objectives of the project design phase is to meet with the entire team of geoscientists from each participant country at the national geoscience agencies to proceed with detailed project development.

Argentina

On October 24th 2001 Hickson, Stasiuk, and Ellerbeck flew to Buenos Aires (Argentina) and met with Roberto Page President of SEGEMAR and the three managers who will lead the MAP:GAC project for Argentina - Lic. José Mendia, Dr. Eduardo Zappettini, and Lic. Omar Lapido. The Argentinians have chosen their areas, in order of priority, 1) the transportation corridor west of Mendoza (the dominant travel corridor through the high Andes connecting the Atlantic and Pacific coasts), 2) a volcanic caldera, Copahue, and 3) an area in the north adjacent to the border



INGEMMET staff and Project Design team putting the final touches into the Peruvian workplan.



Venezuelan Geological Survey INGEOMIN staff meet to present ideas for the MAP:GAC workplan.



Project leader, INGEOMINAS, Dr. Fernando Munoz presenting a lecture on the definition of "hazard" and "risk" at the Emergency Preparedness conference.

with Bolivia.

The project design team, along with SEGEMAR representatives also met with three senior managers of Argentina's Emergency Management agency (Defensa Civil), including the head, Sr. Alberto Irurita. During the meeting they introduced the project and discussed ways in which SEGEMAR could work with the agency.

Ecuador

During the week of November 19 to 23 the Project Design Team met with Dr. Jaime Jarrín, Director Nacional de Geología of the Dirección Nacional de Geología (DINAGE) and with DINAGE's MAP:GAC project leader, Ing. Aracely Lima as well as the project team. The proposed project area in the southern province of Loja (at the border with Perú). They then had a meeting with the Subsecretary of Organization Development, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Arq. Samia Peñaherrera. During the visit to Ecuador which included a visit to the city of Loja, the PDT met with officials from Civil Defense, polytechnics, Universities, local governments and were impressed by the hospitality and enthusiasm on the part of all institutions to cooperate in the

proposed project.

Colombia

Following the Ecuador visit (week of November 25 to 31) the PDT visited INGEOMINAS of Colombia. The team was welcomed by INGEOMINAS National Director, Dr. Adolpho Alarcon, the Head of Environmental Hazards, Dr. Frenando Muñoz (MAP:GAC Project Leader), the Head of Geoscience Information Ing. Julian Escallon, and the other heads of departments. During the week the PDT met with the various departments of INGEOMINAS as well as other organizations such as DPAE (Dirección General para Prevención y Atención de Emergencias), and Mr. Camilo Cardenas, Director Ejecutivo of Corprever (a private sector company dealing with natural disasters). The team also attended 3rd Reunion Regional - PREANDINO (Programa Regional para la Prevención y Mitigación de Riesgos de Desastres). Funded by the Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF), the PREANDINO project is attempting to improve the ability of Andean Pact countries (Bolivia, Perú, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela), to prepare and deal with natural disasters.



SEGEMAR MAP:GAC scientists reviewing hazards maps.

Venezuela

During the week of December 1st to 7th the PDT visited INGEOMIN of Venezuela. Hosted by acting president Geo. Alicia

Sanchez as well as Project Leader Dra. Nelly Pimentel, and Ing. Rosario Bajo de Osuna (Gerente de Investigaciones Geológicas y de Recursos Minerales) among others, the PDT visited both offices of INGEOMIN in Caracas and met with staff from the different departments. The group also visited FUNVISIS (Fundación Venezolana de Investigaciones Sismológicas), the organization that has the mandate for seismic monitoring and met with the President, Dr. Nuris Orihuela, to discuss possible collaboration on

the project. On the final day of the visit the PDT met with the vice-minister of mines Mrs. Elsa Amoré Reyes. During the week of meetings the PDT was given a clear outline of the hazard related work of INGEOMIN as well as the capacities of the various departments within the organization.

Peru

The final leg of the trip took the PDT to Lima Peru to visit the offices of INGENMET (Instituto Minero Metalurgico del Peru) for the week of December 8 through 14. During the week the PDT worked with the project team headed by Project Leader Ing. Antonio Guzman and they also met with Ing. Romulo Mucho Mamani (President), and Ing. Hugo Rivera (Director Tecnico). During the week the PDT was also taken to meetings with the Defensa Civil and the Instituto Geofisico Peruano (IGP, which is the organization in charge of seismic monitoring for Peru). The PDT was impressed by the enthusiasm for the proposed project and by the team's dedication to cooperation with their neighbours in the region.

Conclusion of first leg of mission

The PDT met with the project teams in five of the seven countries all of which produced a draft of the initial work plan and budget for the project. The PDT will be meeting with Bolivia and Chile at the end of January.

The enthusiasm and willingness of all the members to work together is very encouraging and a strong indicator that, if approved, the project will have many successes.

For further MAP:GAC information please consult the project Web page at:

<http://www.pma-map.com/gac/>

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