

SECOND CIRCULAR

AVCOR 2013

WORKSHOP

Active Volcanism & Continental Rifting with special focus on the Kivu rift zone



November 12 – 14, 2013

**Training course on hazard assessment and decision making during
disasters - November 15 – 17, 2013**

Gisenyi – Rwanda

<http://avcor2013.africamuseum.be>

SCOPE OF WORKSHOP

In November 2007, the European Centre for Geodynamics and Seismology (Luxembourg) and the Royal Museum for Central Africa (Belgium) co-organized the first AVCOR (Active Volcanism & Continental Rifting) meeting with a special focus on the Virunga (North Kivu, DR of Congo). After the success of this first edition, a second AVCOR meeting is scheduled in November 2013. The workshop's main scope is to gather East African Rift (EAR) experts from various disciplines (geology, volcanology, geodesy, geodynamics, seismology, geography) in order to review the state of the knowledge about active volcanism and continental rifting, as well as the use of modern modeling approaches and observational techniques such as remote sensing, radar interferometry, GPS, geochemistry etc.

A special focus will target the Kivu rift area, which is one of the denser populated areas of Africa, facing large socioeconomic development challenges. The scientific community involved in that area is strongly concerned by these challenges raising the global risk at a high level, and is more and more committed in the assessment of the potential impacts of geohazards (devastating volcanic eruptions, moderate though destructive earthquakes, recurrent landslides, mudflows, stratified lake with dissolved gas). These threats not only heavily weight on the population and infrastructures, but also on investments of the States and the private sector for edging industrial projects (gas extraction from lake Kivu, geothermy, hydropower, oil exploration). There is today a growing awareness and attention on the interrelationships between geohazards issues and the societal challenges. AVCOR will contribute to determine how all these parameters need to be integrated for supporting a global approach for an integrated development at a sub-continental scale.

The workshop will be followed by a 3-day training course on hazard assessment and decision making during volcanic crisis. See details below.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- F. Kervyn, C. Michellier, *Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA). Belgium*
- N. d'Oreye, B. Smets, *National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) / European Center for Geodynamic and Seismology (ECGS). Luxembourg*
- A. Umutoni, U. Rutagarama, *Energy Water and Sanitation Authority (EWSA). Rwanda*
- K. Karume, *Goma Volcanological Observatory (GVO). Democratic Republic of Congo*



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

A. Ayele, *Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia*
E. Calais, *Laboratoire de Géologie de l'École normale supérieure, France*
S. Carn, *Michigan Technological University, USA*
D. Delvaux, *Royal Museum for Central Africa, Belgium*
C. Ebinger, *Univ. of Rochester, USA*
F. Kervyn, *Royal Museum for Central Africa, Belgium*
K. Karume, *Goma Volc. Observatory, DRC*

G. Mavonga, *Goma Volc. Observatory, DRC*
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N. Pagliuca, *Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica E Vulcanologia, Italy*
P. Pigeon, *Université de Savoie, France*
C. Scholz, *Syracuse University, USA*
D. Tedesco, *University of Napoli 2, Italy*
T. Wright, *University of Leeds, UK*
G. Yirgu, *Univ. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

WITH THE SUPPORT OF

The European Union (EU)
The Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO)
La Direction générale Coopération belge au développement et Aide humanitaire (DGD)
The International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
European Center for Geodynamics and Seismology, Lux. (ECGS)
The Royal Museum for Central Africa, B. (RMCA)

SCHEDULE

September 6th, 2013: Second Circular
September 30th, 2013: Registration deadline
September 30th, 2013: Abstract submission deadline
September 30th, 2013: Training course registration deadline
October 11th, 2013: Authors notification
October 25th, 2013: Final program is issued
November 12th – 14th, 2013: Workshop
November 15th-17th, 2013: Training course on “*e-tools designed to long and short term hazard assessment and decision making during volcanic crisis*”.

VENUE

This second AVCOR meeting will be held from November 12th to 14th in Gisenyi, the capital of Rubavu district, in the Western Province of Rwanda. Gisenyi is located within the Kivu rift, along the lake Kivu shoreline and within the Virunga Volcanic Province. It offers an interesting geological context for the concerned topics.

Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, is connected by direct flights to/from Europe and several African cities. The 3-hour drive from Kigali to Gisenyi will be arranged by the organizer (cf. below *Organization*).

All range of accommodation facilities are available in town; given the small size of the city, hotels will be negotiated and booked at the best rate for all participants by the organizer (cf. below *Organization*).

CONFERENCE THEMES

Sessions will be composed of one keynote lecture followed by talks of 15 min + 5 min discussion. Authors will be given 3min (one slide) for the presentation of their posters. Posters will be displayed in the lobby and available through the meeting. Conventional material will be available (projectors etc..).

Presentations can be given in English or French. Translation is foreseen.

The following topics are envisaged:

- Geodesy, ground deformation measurements and modeling of deformations associated to volcanic, tectonic or landslide activity
- Geochemistry, volcanic plume, rock and water
- Geomorphology, structural aspects
- Seismology, tectonic activity and volcano related seismology
- Volcano monitoring (remote sensing, ground based techniques...)
- Geohazards versus stratified lake stability
- Hazards, risk, vulnerability assessment and society issues
- Environmental challenges in the specific context of geohazards management

For detailed and updated program please refer to the AVCOR-2013 website

<http://avcor2013.africamuseum.be>

POSTERS

Max dimensions: A0 size, portrait orientation

Mounting material: will be supplied at the conference room.

ABSTRACTS

Due: **September 30th**, 2013, via the website <http://avcor2013.africamuseum.be>

Title: 200 characters (incl. spaces)

Length: 500 words + 2 figures max. (pdf format).

The abstracts volume will be distributed at workshop opening (memory stick and paper format) and will be accessible online through the AVCOR-2013 website. Abstracts can be submitted both in French or English.

SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL OF AFRICAN EARTH SCIENCES

Main conference contributions and related papers will be collected for a special volume of the *Journal of African Earth Sciences*. Format and guidelines will be distributed to the authors during the workshop.

ORGANIZATION

There is no registration fee.

Grants are available and will be attributed in priority to talks and posters' presenters.

For all accepted participants who receive a grant, the workshop takes in charge:

- travel up to the workshop place (air tickets will be booked by the organizer; other transportation requires previous approval by the organizer)
- visa handling fee for Rwanda (if required)
- room hotel for the four nights (November, 11th to 14th incl.)
- all meals during the workshop (from diner on the 11th until breakfast on the 15th)
- the abstract volume

Please note that additional nights or extra's (phone, mini bar...) are at the charge of participants. There will be no reimbursement for expenses that will not have been first approved by the organizer.

Participants without grant will be requested to pay for their travel up to Kigali and accommodation. All meals during the conference (from diner on the 11th until breakfast on the 15th) are offered by the organizer.

- *Travel*: responsible for their own travel up to Kigali.
- *Transfer*: please inform the organizer (avcor2013@africamuseum.be) about date and time of arrival and departure for Kigali airport transfer (from/to).
- *Hotel*: given the small size of Gisenyi, hotels will be negotiated and booked at the best rate for all participants by the organizer (please inform the organizer about the preferred hotel category (high or medium) at avcor2013@africamuseum.be). Accommodation will be paid directly to the hotel.

Number of participants is limited. If not done yet, you can apply via the AVCOR-2013 website (<http://avcor2013.africamuseum.be>).

TRAINING COURSE ON HAZARD ASSESSMENT AND DECISION MAKING DURING VOLCANIC CRISIS

This training course will be given by Dr. Joan Marti, Rosa Sobradelo and Stefania Bartolini from the Institute of Earth Sciences "Jaume Almera" (CSIC).

- See description on the website (<http://avcor2013.africamuseum.be>)
- There is no registration fee.
- The number of participants is limited.
- Participation to the AVCOR-2013 workshop is required to register to the training course which will take place after the workshop, *from November 15th to 17th*.
- *Minimum skill requirements*: participants must have knowledge of excel, QGIS, ArcGis, Linux, and virtual machine. Basic knowledge of probabilities would be an asset. The training course will be given in English and in French.
- *Training material*: to participate to this training course, you will have to bring your own computer. Minimum hardware/software requirements will be communicated to applicants.
- *Registration*: application is mandatory; please register onto the AVCOR-2013 website before September 30th (CV and covering letter required).
- Few scholarships will be available for AVCOR-2013 participants who fulfill the training requirements.
- *Organization*: each participant (except those who receive a scholarship) will have to book and pay for his/her hotel and meals (lunches will be offered).

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Vaccination: A vaccination certificate may be required at the border post. The yellow fever vaccine is mandatory to get the visa for Rwanda. That vaccination should be done 10 days before departure to be effective.

Visa: Procedure and conditions: please see <https://www.migration.gov.rw/home/>

Insurance: Each participant is expected to have its own travel insurance. A proof must be provided to the organizer on arrival.

Currency: The currency in Rwanda is the Rwandan franc (RwF). Currency exchange is available at the airport and at main hotels. 1 euro = about 870 RwF; 1 USD = about 650 RwF

Electricity: 220V, 50Hz. (for more information, see <http://www.travel-images.com/electric-plugs.html>).

FOR MORE INFORMATION/APPLICATION: please visit

<http://avcor2013.africamuseum.be>