ABSTRACTS VOLUME

CITIES ON VOLCANOES 5
CONFERENCE

Shimabara, Japan

November 19-23, 2007

Hosted by
Volcanological Society of Japan,
The City of Shimabara

Co-hosted by
International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth’s Interior (IAVCEI)
Faculty of Sciences, Kyushu University
Earthquake Research Institute, The University of Tokyo
Kyushu Regional Development Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport
Nagasaki Prefecture
The City of Unzen
The City of Minamishimabara
Mount Unzen Disaster Memorial Foundation

Supported by
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
The Commemorative Organization for the Japan World Exposition (’70)
Tokyo Geographical Society
failures, and prior to new upcoming even more severe volcanic activities, the newly elected government decided to reduce Ecuador's volcanic vulnerability in several ways. The national civil defense will be enforced with their own, centralized volcanic monitoring as they obtained data and their interpretation of second hand and usually to late. A second step includes the installation of human decision-independent, early alert systems for lahars and the construction of economically useful mitigation structures (sabo dams etc.) close to active volcanoes.

Another important step is dedicated to the permanent education of the public and especially of the children and last but not the least the most difficult step, the re-location of public of high-risk areas. The last step incorporates micro-credits for the investment of a new house and/or farm for the re-located families as part of the re-compensation of their economic losses. How past mistakes leaded to the new policy of Ecuador's volcanic disaster management and how scientists of the CGVG-USFQ together with the authorities progress in this program will be demonstrated.

21a-P-09

Scientific and Social Response to 2006-07 Activity at Ubinas Volcano, Southern Peru

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Ubinas is a stratovolcano in the regional district of Moquegua, southern Peru (16º 22' S, 70º 54' O; 5672 masl). Explosive activity began at Ubinas on 27 March 2006, following approximately 8 months of heightened gas emissions. Activity continues to present day as continuous degassing with intermittent Vulcanian explosions that have ejected blocks up to 40 cm to distances of 2 km from the vent. Ash columns rise to 4 km above the crater rim and disperse to distances of 80 km.

Initial explosions spread ashfall within 7 km of the volcano, and in April led the Comité Regional de Defensa Civil de Moquegua (CRDMC) to order the evacuation of >150 people living in the village of Querapi (~4 km from the volcano) to Anasca (Refugio I, ~8 km from the volcano). Due to substantial increases in volcanic activity through April and May, an integrated scientific committee (with members from Instituto Geologico Minero y Metalurgico [INGEMMET], Instituto Geofisico del Peru [IGP], and the Universidad Nacional San Agustin de Arequipa [IG-UNSA]) recommended that CRDMC increase the level of alert and implement a previously established evacuation plan for five villages in a valley within ~12 km of Ubinas. CRDMC issued the evacuation order, and between June 9-11 approximately 1000 people relocated to a shelter in Chacchagen (Refugio II, ~20 km from the volcano). Though volcanic activity persisted, after ~8 months in Chacchagen, over 85% of evacuees had returned to their places of origin, citing difficult living conditions and lack of productive capacity as their reasons for returning. This presentation will sequentially detail highlights of volcanic activity alongside the key scientific and social responses.

21a-P-10

Volcanic Hazard In Mexico City

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Popocatépetl Volcano, 60 km to the east of Mexico City, which is the political and economic center of the country where over 20 million people live, has been erupting since December 1994. Some of these small eruptions have produced ashfall in the city and caused the airport to be shut once for hours and the second time for several minutes. Ash fall from the June 30, 1997 and July 19, 2003 eruptions, which had plumes 8 and 5 km high above the volcano (13,500 and 10,500 masl), caused traffic congestion, problems with communications and increased pollution. Grain-size analyses shows ash was fine-grained, and although respiratory effects were noted,