

**Report on the International Workshop on Natural and Human Induced Hazards and Disasters in Africa** (Kampala, Uganda, 21st and the 22nd July 2007).

Report by Gerd Tetzlaff

The program preparation was coordinated by ICSU ROA (Regional Office for Africa).

The workshop was held in the rooms of the Kabila Country Club in Kampala. About 40 of the 55 participants came from African countries, about 10 from the USA.

The workshop program was organised in sessions :

Session 1 : Opening addresses (08:30-10:00)

Session 2 : Keynote presentations (10:30-12:30); one of 4 presentations was "IUGG visions on problems of natural hazards and risks in Africa" by Gerd Tetzlaff

Session 3a : Vulnerability Science I : 8 presentations (13:30-15:30)

Session 3b : Vulnerability Science II : 5 presentations (16:00-17:15)

Session 3c : Vulnerability Science III : 3 presentations (17:15-18:00)

Session 4 : Integrated modelling of multiple disasters : 3 presentations  
(08:30-09:15)

Session 5 : Geohazards : 7 presentations (09:15-11:00)

Session 6a : Formation of breakout groups on 5 topics (group 1 : resilience with 8 participants; group 2 : risk analysis with 8 participants (facilitator : G. Tetzlaff); group 3 : climate change with 6 participants; group 4 : modelling with 9 participants; group 5 : geohazards and IYPE with 10 participants).

Session 6b and Session 7 were put together : breakout group reports and general discussion, closing session (14:30-16:30 and 16:30-17:30).

A poster session and a workshop on NSF writing were held in parallel.

The first five sessions were meant to prepare the ground for the breakout groups. They could draw on some of the results as presented in these sessions. The time allotted for the breakout groups was sufficient to focus on more general aspects. This was in particular the case because the research outlines had to consider the whole of the African continent and could not draw on information about existing capacities, in

personnel, infrastructure, methods and tools, experience, and regionally distributed priorities. The results were put down in reports of the breakout groups presented in a plenary session, followed by a discussion, both in detail and in general.

At the end of the discussion two research proposals began to emerge :

- ◆ The IYPE initiative was considered to be a nucleus of a proposal on geohazards.
- ◆ The second proposal emerging was in the field of hydrometeorological hazards and disasters in Africa.

At the end of the discussion the exact goal and focus of either of the two research proposals was not fully developed. The ICSU coordinators suggested as a procedure to circulate the summarised results for feedback from the workshop participants.