

Current status of The Africa Seismological Commission (AFSC)

The East African Rift System (EARS), the most extensive rifts on the Earth's surface, and the Cameroon Volcanic Line (CVL) are the two most prominent tectonic features that attract global seismological collaboration in recent years. There is increasing seismological research activity in the continent with increasing state-of-the-art broadband seismic stations funded through several overseas collaborations and government initiatives. The number of African seismologists that survived brain drain is also picking.

Noting this potential, in July, 2011, the IASPEI Resolution 2 passed the establishment of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC) in Melbourne, Australia. IASPEI encouraged the formation of an African Seismological Commission so as to foster more cooperation within the region and the organization of regular IASPEI regional meetings.

Discussions are still underway to formulate the bylaws of the commission but many countries in Africa are not members of IUGG and discussions on possible modalities are currently being moderated by Michelle Grobbelaar who is the interim Secretary General of AfSC.



Photo: Group picture during the November, 2011 Africa Array workshop held in Johannesburg South Africa where the agenda of establishing the African Seismological commission was raised and discussed.