

GSHAP programme

Project title

GSHAP (Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Programme)

Overview

The Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program (GSHAP) was designed to assist in global risk mitigation by providing a useful global seismic hazard framework and by serving as a resource for any national or regional agency for further detailed studies applicable to their needs. GSHAP was launched in 1992 by the International Lithosphere Program (ILP) with the support of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and endorsed as a demonstration program in the framework of the United Nations International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (UN/IDNDR).

Description

What the Map Shows:

So what's on the map? Seismic hazard is basically the degree of earthquake shaking that you can expect in a given place during a given time span. To simplify things, the mappers assume that your building is on solid rock and that you're interested in relatively fast shaking (0.2 second period), a frequency that strongly affects ordinary houses. Different ground and different periods are important in determining the exact seismic risk for a particular structure.

The map shows the peak ground acceleration (PGA) that a site can expect during the next 50 years with 10 percent probability. The color scale goes from very low (white) to about half the acceleration of gravity (red-brown)---remember, this is acceleration sideways. A structure of modern design and sound construction can survive that degree of shaking without killing the people in it, although it may well need to be torn down afterward.

Products

seismic hazard assessment
common regional earthquake catalogs and databases
assess the regional seismic hazard

Partners

IDNDR
ING
ILP
ISCU
IASPEI
gfz-potsdam
SSB
SED
Unesco
USGS

Links

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