

Commission C35 - Monitoring methods and approaches in engineering geology applications

Commission C35 – 2019 activities

In 2019, the Commission C35 presented to the Editors of the Bulletin of Engineering Geology and the Environment the final proof of the technical report related to the use of Remotely Piloted Aerial Systems (RPAS) for engineering geology applications. The report has been organized in two parts for a total of 12 chapters. The first part is a general overview of UAV and the second is a collection of possible applications of these systems on landslides, debris flows, rivers, glaciers and building reconstruction planning after earthquakes.

The C35 Commission supported the organization of the third Summer School on Natural Hazards and Engineering Geology applications together with the University of Pavia and the Research Institute for geo-Hydrological Protection. The summer school, endorsed for the first time by IAEG, was dedicated to the study of the impact of human landscape modifications on the slope stability. The location chosen for the summer School was Cinque Terre, an incredible UNESCO area where the past activity of people who lived at Cinque Terre had strongly modified the environment creating one of the most beautiful terraced areas of the world.

The course was held from the 18th until 21st June 2019 thanks to the fundamental support of Cinque Terre National Park and its Study Centre for Geological Risks. As usual, participants followed two days of lectures and two full-day field trips, which goal was to illustrate the main geological settings and the geomorphological processes of this area, related risks and possible systems for monitoring and risk mitigation of slope instabilities.



Thanks to the hospitality of the National Park of Cinque Terre, the lectures took place in the park headquarter located in the heart of Cinque Terre.

The field trips gave to participants the possibility to discover the “Sentiero Azzurro” trail between Corniglia and Vernazza and to appreciate the Cinque Terre from the sea, by a dedicated cruise along the coast from Riomaggiore to La Spezia.



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The last field trip was dedicated to the effects of 2011 floods by visiting a part of Vernazza basin.

This Summer School attracted many Ph.D. students with 55 application from different countries and 33 participants from Italy, New Zealand, South Africa, Greece, Cyprus, and Spain. Participants had an opportunity to learn and observe in detail geo-hydrological risks that characterize this territory, such as rockfalls, debris flows, and rockslides. Also, they could follow the complete workflow: risk identification – risk study – appropriate risk mitigation design.

SUMMER SCHOOL PHOTO BOOK



The significant participation to the third edition of the summer school, the first officially endorsed by IAEG, pointed out how these events can be useful for the education training of young engineering geologists. For this reason, we suggest that the IAEG considers the possibility of the creation of a permanent official IAEG summer school that can be a good possibility for young people to approach to our Association.

Torino, August 1, 2019

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