

17-23 September, Stryszawa/Krakow, Poland

# Case study, ROMANIA:

# BUZĂU COUNTY







- almost 6100 km<sup>2</sup> of which half is represented by mountains and hills
- situated in the heart of Vrancea Seismic Region (Curvature sector of the Southeast Romanian Carpathians)
- the most active seismic region in Romania.
- the most active subcrustal earthquake province of Europe (continental collision area, weak crustal but intense sub-crustal seismicity (80-160 km in depth), a domain in which three-to-four major events (Mw > 7) occur per century.

#### **GEOGRAPHICAL SETTINGS**

- **Relief:** great structural and petrographical complexity, a young and very dynamic relief of mountains (1400-1500, up to 1700), hills (400-800 m) and depressions;
- **Geology:** folded and faulted flysch molasse quaternary deposits (great lithological heterogeneity; *clays, marls, sands*);
- **Precipitation regime:** 500-1000 mm yearly amount, torrential heavy summer rainfalls, spring showers overlapping snow melt;
- **Human activity and land use/land cover:** long history of intensely populated (90-150 pers./sq.km.) and used areas; large deforestations;
- **Natural hazards:** in the Subcarpathians, 30-40 % of the agricultural lands are affected by landslides, mudflows and erosion. The presence of numerous elements at risk (villages, isolated households and a dense road network) requires appropriate hazard assessment and mapping for risk management and governance.
- The local signals of **climate change** are sustained by several aspects: a slight increasing trend in annual mean temperatures, a decrease in precipitation but a tendency of rainfall concentration over short time intervals along with increased torrential character.



### Landslide data/information

Rotational and translational slides, flows, complex;

Debris, earth;

Reactivations, first time;

Rainfall, snowmelt, seismic acceleration;

Velocity, geometry, run-out: very variable according to the type of process.

**AVAILABLE**: susceptibility (expert knowledge);

**NOT AVAILABLE**: multi-temporal inventories (regional);

**IN PROGRESS**: landslide inventory, susceptibility (statistic), hazard.





## **Flood data/information**

Flash floods;

Monitoring: velocity and discharge (4 river gouging stations, *INHGA*);

Triggering: rainfall, snowmelt.

#### AVAILABLE:

maximum discharge, return periods: 10, 50, 100 years (regional);

#### NOT AVAILABLE:

Hazard;

#### IN PROGRESS: -



### **Data on conditioning factors**

#### AVAILABLE:

DEM (30 m/pixel); topomaps (1/25,000: 1940, 1970, 1980, 1989; 1/10,000: 1970, 1980) (*still considered state secret*); geological map (1/100,000, 1/200,000); general geomorphological map (1/100,000); land-cover map (1990, 2000, 2006; CORINE); tectonic map (1/100,000); forest map (1/100,000) aerial photos (some 40% of the entire area);

#### NOT AVAILABLE:

accurate DEM, radar images, groundwater distribution, geophysical assessment;

#### IN PROGRESS:

soil map (1/100,000);



## Data on triggering factors

#### AVAILABLE:

3 weather stations; Daily: temperature and precipitation; Earthquake catalogue;

#### NOT AVAILABLE:

Humidity data; no early warning systems;

#### **IN PROGRESS**:

Spatial correlations between landslides and precipitation-triggering thresholds.



### Data on elements at risk and land planning

Roads, bridges, buildings, located on/or near active landslides, on active torrential cones and in the floodplain.

#### AVAILABLE:

Settlements map; population density (NUTS 4)

**NOT AVAILABLE**: Numerical modelling, risk analyses.

#### IN PROGRESS:

Element at risk map (including attributes of the elements at risk) – 1/100,000; Data on damages of elements at risk; value of some category of buildings; human losses doe to previous events; economic loss due to previous events; land planning/management.





### Siriu reservoir and National Road 10



**Chirlesti mud-flow** 



### Small catchments affected by flash-floods



Seismicity, neotectonic uplift