

NEWS No. 2

July 2026

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF VOLCANOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY
OF THE EARTH'S INTERIOR**



This Newsletter is intended to keep IAVCEI Members as well as all scientists interested in IAVCEI matters up to date. We use this newsletter as our prime communication channel to all members. It contains decisions and reports of past events but also links to open polls and surveys as well as upcoming events. Past newsletters are posted on the [IAVCEI website](#). The IAVCEI Newsletter may be forwarded to non-members who may benefit from the information.



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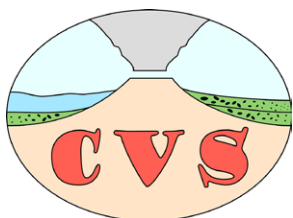
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Cover photo: Ceremony to hand over the 2026 IAVCEI Volcano Surveillance and Crisis Management award to PHIVOLCS (Philippines). From Right to Left: Allan Loza (Taal), Rey Lumbang (Pinatubo), Andyline Quintia (Kanlaon), April Dominguiano (Bulusan), Teresito Bacolcol (Director of PHIVOLCS), Chris Newhall (nominator), Heather Wright (nominator), Marta Calvache (IAVCEI Vice-President), Eric Abang (Hibok-Hibok), Doreen Abelinde (Mayon), Mylene Villegas (Deputy Director of PHIVOLCS) and Jude Arcenas (Matutum/Parker)

SECTION 1. IAVCEI – WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

1.1 IAVCEI Commission Updates

1.1.1 IAVCEI Commission on Volcanogenic Sediments (CVS)



The Commission on Volcanogenic Sediments (CVS) of IAVCEI is an international scientific community dedicated to advancing the understanding of sedimentological processes related to volcanic activity. Its mission is to foster collaboration and knowledge

exchange among researchers working on the full spectrum of volcanogenic sedimentary systems.

The commission is driven by a dedicated international committee that reflects the interdisciplinary and global nature of the community.

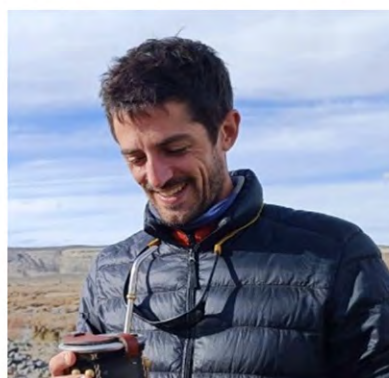
The current team includes:

- Andrea Di Capua and Rebecca Williams as co-leaders, supported by
- Anke Zernack (Secretary),
- Ed McGowan (Webmaster),
- Manuel López (Early Career Researcher Representative),
- Nemi Walding (social media Officer), as well as
- Leandro D'Elia, Aldo Umazano and Nick Pollack (Board Members).

CVS brings together expertise from both volcanology and sedimentology, promoting an interdisciplinary approach to investigate how volcanic materials are generated, transported, deposited, and altered through time. The scope of the commission is intentionally broad, encompassing phenomena ranging from ash dispersal in the atmosphere to large-scale mass flows such as debris avalanches. It addresses processes and products alike, linking modern observations with the interpretation of ancient deposits and contributing to improved facies models and hazard assessments.

A key component of CVS outreach is its frequent webinar series, featuring invited speakers from across the international community and covering a wide range of topics related to volcanogenic sediments. Recordings are freely available [online](#), providing an open-access archive where the community can revisit past presentations and discussions.

CVS also promotes hands-on training and field-based learning. A recent field course, '[CVS goes to Hungary](#)' (7–11 April 2025), combined lectures and extensive field excursions across northern Hungary and adjacent areas, focusing on volcanic and volcanoclastic successions, including ignimbrites, diatremes, lahars, and volcanogenic successions. This international training school was sponsored by IAVCEI and the International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS), highlighting its strong interdisciplinary and institutional support. CVS supported



The CVS Committee – from left to right, from top to bottom: Andrea Di Capua, Anke Zernack, Nemi Walding, Leandro D'Elia, Rebecca Williams, Ed McGowan, and Manuel López.



Group photo of participants in the first fieldtrip “CVS Goes to Hungary”, held in April 2025 (photo: Szabolcs Harangi).

the ‘Recording and interpreting pyroclastic stratigraphies’ workshop held as part of the Volcanic and Magmatic Studies Group Annual Meeting, held in the National Oceanographic Centre, Southampton, UK (January 2026).

Further expanding its training activities, CVS is now organizing the ‘CVS goes to Patagonia’ field trip (19–23 October 2026) in northern Patagonia, Argentina. This trip focuses on the interaction between volcanic activity and sediment routing systems in a Miocene arc setting, combining field observations with discussions on facies models and large-scale volcanic–sedimentary processes. This event is sponsored by IAVCEI, IAS and IUGG.

CVS maintains an active online presence to foster communication and community engagement. Updates and opportunities can be followed through its social media channels:

- [BlueSky](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#) page
- [Facebook](#) Group

In short, CVS is not just a commission, but a lively community: from webinars to field schools, from Patagonia to Hungary, it offers plenty of opportunities to connect, learn, and explore volcanogenic sediments together, so if you are curious about volcano-sedimentary processes, there is definitely a place for you in CVS.

Andrea Di Capua

1.1.2 IAVCEI Commission on Submarine Volcanism (CoSV)

The [IAVCEI Commission on Submarine Volcanism](#) (CoSV) is currently holding elections for the new leadership team. The members are invited to participate in the [online poll](#). Deadline is Friday, 24 July, at 11.59 pm Central European Time.

The commission is announcing the [2nd Submarine Volcanism Workshop](#) that will take place between from 19 through 22 October 2026 on Santorini Island, Greece.

Sam Mitchell and Tushar Mittal

1.2 IAVCEI Network Updates: The ECR-Net

1.2.1 IAVCEI SA25 ECR Seminar Series

The [IAVCEI ECR-Net](#) is launching the first session of the IAVCEI SA25 ECR Seminar Series in July 2026. This initiative was created to provide a platform for early-career researchers whose accepted presentations could not be delivered at the 2025 IAVCEI Scientific Assembly. The seminar aims to promote scientific exchange, increase the visibility of early-career researchers, and provide opportunities for discussion and networking within the IAVCEI community. Following the presentations, attendees will have the opportunity to engage with the speakers through a moderated Q&A session.

This first session will feature [Dr. Alberto Ardid](#) (University of Canterbury) and [Dr. Darren Tan](#) (University of Tokyo), who will present their research to an international audience of researchers and students from across the volcanology community. The event will be held **online on 29 July 2026 at 23:30 UTC via Microsoft Teams**.

Interested in attending the first session? Please [register your interest](#) to receive the latest updates and the meeting link for this session.

Interested in sharing your research within upcoming sessions? If you are interested in presenting as part of the IAVCEI SA25 ECR Online Seminar Series, please [complete this form](#). Expression of interest deadline: 20 July 2026.

1.2.2 IAVCEI ECR-Net Masterclass Series: Forging an Identity in Research

The IAVCEI ECR-Net Masterclass Series continues on **19 August 2026, 15:00-18:00 UTC**, with a panel discussion on forging an identity as a researcher. This session will bring together panellists who have found their way to volcanology and related fields through varied and interdisciplinary routes:

- Dr. Kayla Iacovino (SETI),
- Dr. Karen Holmberg (NYU-Gallatin), and
- Professor Tom Gernon (University of Southampton),

The discussion will focus on how early-career researchers can begin to establish themselves as independent scientists, develop their own research direction, and navigate careers that do not always follow a linear path. The event is aimed at early-career researchers across the IAVCEI community and will include panellist reflections, moderated discussion, and audience questions.

If you are interested in attending, please [provide your details here](#) to receive more information.

1.2.3 IAVCEI ECR-Net Gallery: ECRs in Action

The IAVCEI Early-Career Researcher Network is launching a new photo gallery to showcase the work, experiences, and perspectives of early-career researchers across volcanology and related fields.

We would like to invite ECRs to submit photos of themselves working as volcanologists, as well as images from the field, laboratory, conferences, outreach activities, or other moments that capture life and work in volcanology. Submitted photos will be shared in an online ECR-Net gallery, helping to highlight the diversity of people, places, and activities that make up our community.

Each month, we will also select one submitted image as a featured photo on the ECR-Net website and share it through our social media channels, with full credit to the contributor.

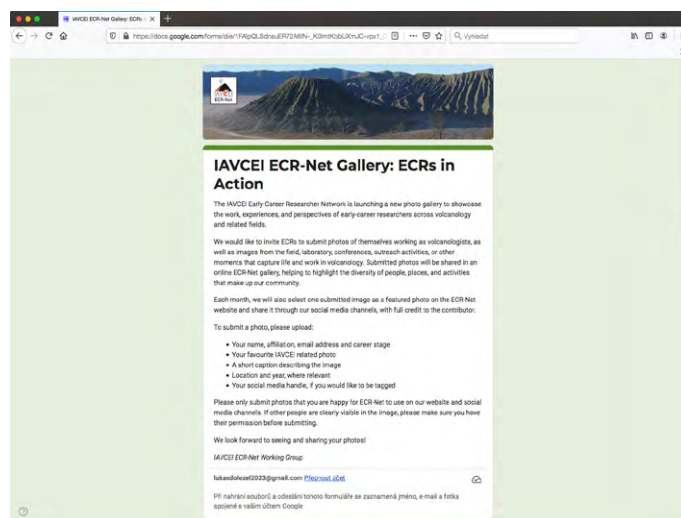
To submit a photo, please send us:

- Your name, affiliation, and career stage
- A short caption describing the image
- Location and year, where relevant
- Photo credit
- Your social media handle, if you would like to be tagged

Please only submit photos that you are happy for ECR-Net to use on our website and social media channels. If other people are clearly visible in the image, please make sure you have their permission before submitting.

Submissions can be sent to:

ecrnetiavcei@gmail.com or uploaded via [this google form](#).



We look forward to seeing and sharing your photos!

Jacqueline Grech Licari and Geoffrey Lerner,
on behalf of the IAVCEI ECR-Net

1.3 Early Warning for All in Volcanology: Case Study Series, Part III (Iceland)

This article is the third contribution in our EW4All case-study series, launched following the “Advancing Volcanic Hazards in EW4All” workshop held in Geneva in July 2025. The series highlights practical examples of how the four pillars of the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative are being integrated to strengthen volcanic early warning systems. [Two case studies have now been published](#), showcasing diverse experiences and approaches from different contexts.

Through these contributions, we aim to share experiences, lessons learned, and examples of cross-pillar collaboration that can support and inspire the wider volcanological community. We warmly thank all contributors for sharing their perspectives and experiences, and we look forward to expanding this collection over time.

A new operational multi-hazard approach for communicating volcanic hazards in Iceland

The Icelandic Meteorological Office (IMO) is the Icelandic governmental agency tasked with monitoring and advising on natural hazards including volcanic activity. It has a duty to collect,

analyse, and disseminate data on natural phenomena to both other government agencies and the general public, and is an advisor to the Department of Civil Protection. IMO is the State Volcano Observatory and works closely with the London Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre in preparation for, and during, explosive volcanic eruptions but since 2021 there has been a need for increased attention to ground-based volcanic hazards.

In March 2021 the Reykjanes Peninsula in southwest Iceland hosted its first eruption in 781 years (Sæmundsson et al. 2020) following several years of volcanic unrest in the area (Sigmundsson et al. 2022). The Fagradalsfjall eruption lasted 6 months and was followed by two nearby eruptions, in August 2022 and July 2023, each lasting less than a month. In October 2023, inflation was detected in Svartsengi, north of the town of Grindavík (population 3,580 in 2023) and on 10 November a major rifting event took place with an associated 15km dyke propagation and graben formation (Parks et al. 2025) leading to extensive property damage (Figure 1) and a complete evacuation of the area – the majority of who have not yet returned.



Figure 1 a) Main graben fault through centre of Grindavík; b) the only lava flow to enter Grindavík during this eruptive period (14 January 2024, Hólmfríður Dagný/ruv.is); c) evidence of strike-slip movement on faults cutting the town; d) damage to building foundations; e) January 2024 eruptive fissure outside of Grindavík town (Björn Oddsson/ Civil Protection); f) lava cuts the main road to Grindavík, Svartsengi powerplant, and the Blue Lagoon.

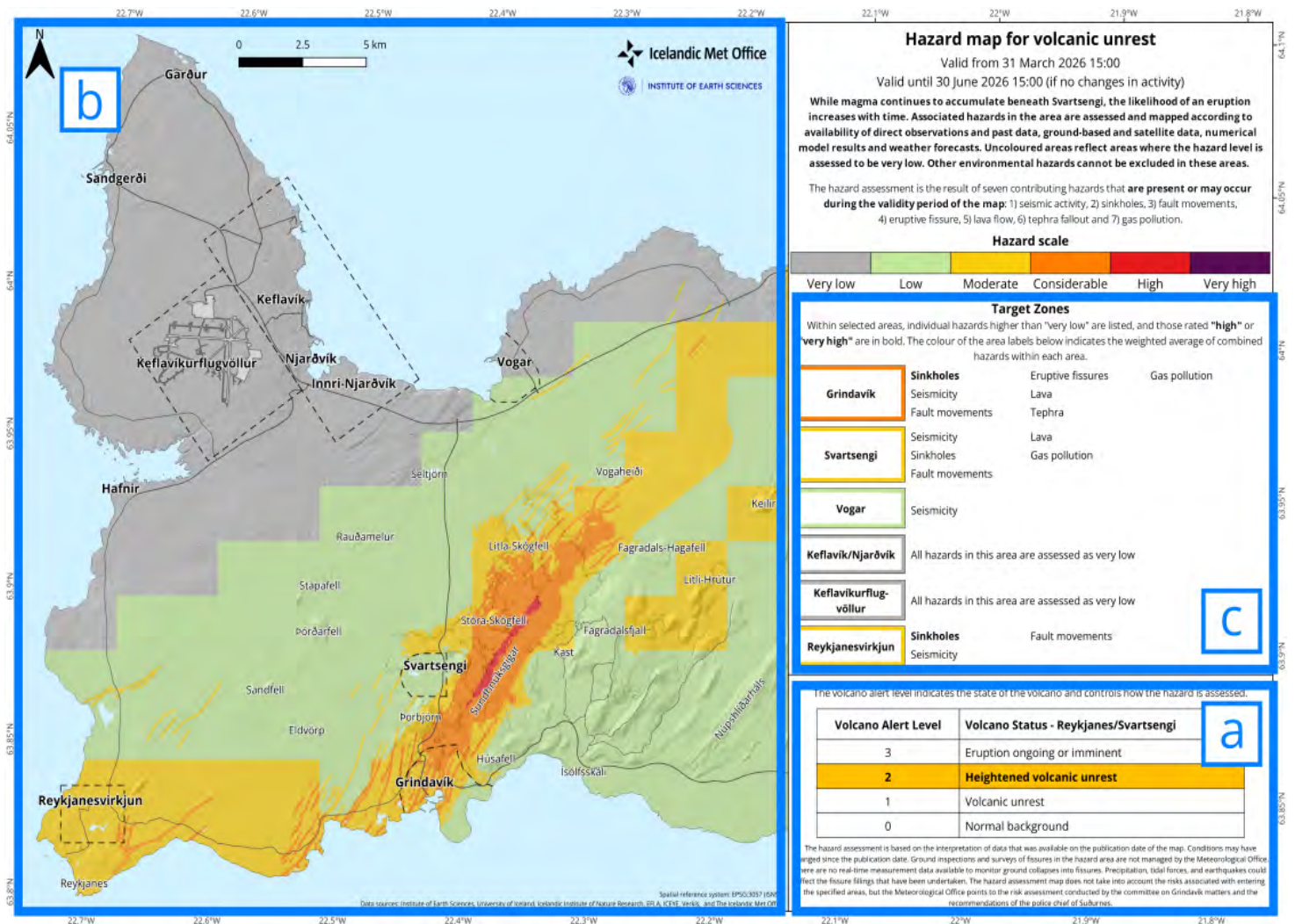


Figure 2 An example of the current hazard map with the three core components: a) the Volcano Alert Level System status (VALS); b) the cumulative hazard map showing the situation across the assessed area; and c) the target zones with hazard lists and hazard level.

The case for effective hazard maps was clear. Hazard maps have been used to communicate volcanic hazards in Iceland since at least Eyjafjallajökull in 2010. In 2021, maps were used to show the extent of hazards around the vents, such as lava, gas, tephra, and ballistics but due to the relatively remote situation of the 2021–2023 Fagradalsfjall eruptions, authorities found it easier to simply close the sites to tourists and visitors when necessary (e.g. in very bad weather conditions, during moss fires or due to expected or observed high level of gas pollution in the area; Barsotti et al. 2023). This changed in November 2023 with the focus of unrest situated immediately adjacent to Svartsengi, a strategically important powerplant, the Blue Lagoon, a major tourist attraction, and Grindavik a population centre.

The aim of the current hazard map (Figure 2) is to communicate the cumulative volcanic hazard at any given location on the Reykjanes peninsula within the map's validity period. The map is composed of three core components: the Volcano Alert Level System (VALS) using a four-tier colour-coded scale reflecting the state of volcanic activity (Figure 2a); a cumulative hazard map (Figure 2b); and details of hazards affecting target zones such as towns or infrastructure (Figure 2c).

Currently, seven separate volcanic hazards are assessed over the area of the map (Figure 3): seismic activity, sinkholes, fault movements, eruptive fissures, lava flow, tephra fallout, and gas pollution. Individually, each component hazard is assessed in terms of geographical extent and significance according to the current level of VALS. The result of this is seven raster layers showing the weight of each hazard across the area. These rasters are summed to give a final cumulative hazard raster shown on the published map. The hazards present or probable within target zones are listed and a weighted average of the cumulative hazard within each zone is provided in the form of a six-tier colour-coded scale (from very low to very high).

A range of input data is used to construct the component hazard rasters. For example, the mapped locations of fractures that have recently moved according to satellite data or direct observations in the field, or the results of MrLavaLoba lava flow simulations. Data, whether vector or raster, is ingested using QGIS, converted to either 100 or 20 metre resolution rasters (dependant on whether modelled or mapped), and aligned to a common grid for the cumulative calculation.

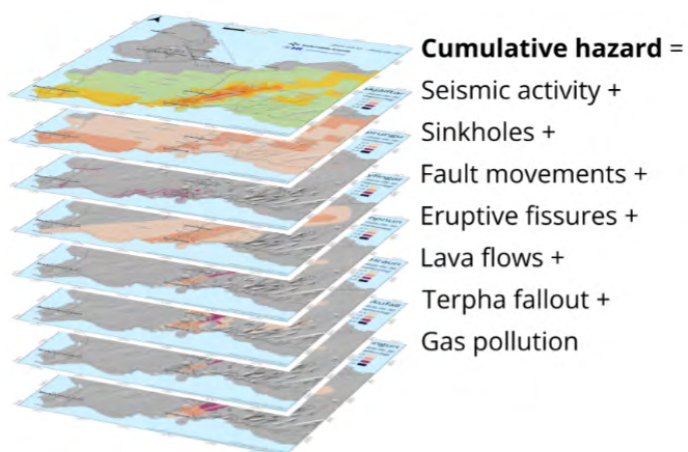


Figure 3 Seven component hazard rasters map the extent and weight of each hazard and are summed to produce the final component hazard map.

The map is re-issued frequently, either to extend the validity period or when new activity necessitates. Typical validity periods range from a month during extended calm periods to hours at the start of eruptions. Since November 2023, 133 maps have been issued.

The final map is published on IMO's website and emailed directly to key stakeholders such as the police, Civil Protection, and local authorities. This hazard assessment is considered by Police and Civil Protection when deciding access to the area and it is used as the basis for risk assessments for the Grindavík area carried out by contractors. It is also distributed by the Grindavík Commission, a temporary independent governmental panel on the situation, and safetravel.is, a website operated by Icelandic Search and Rescue for the benefit of foreign tourists.

The methodology used in the construction of the map is aimed at being as versatile as possible so that the same approach can be used to assess any area of Iceland in a consistent way with any combination of hazards. Future work will involve adaption to a live web map where users can query locations for the presence of specific hazards.

Additional information on the map can be found at:

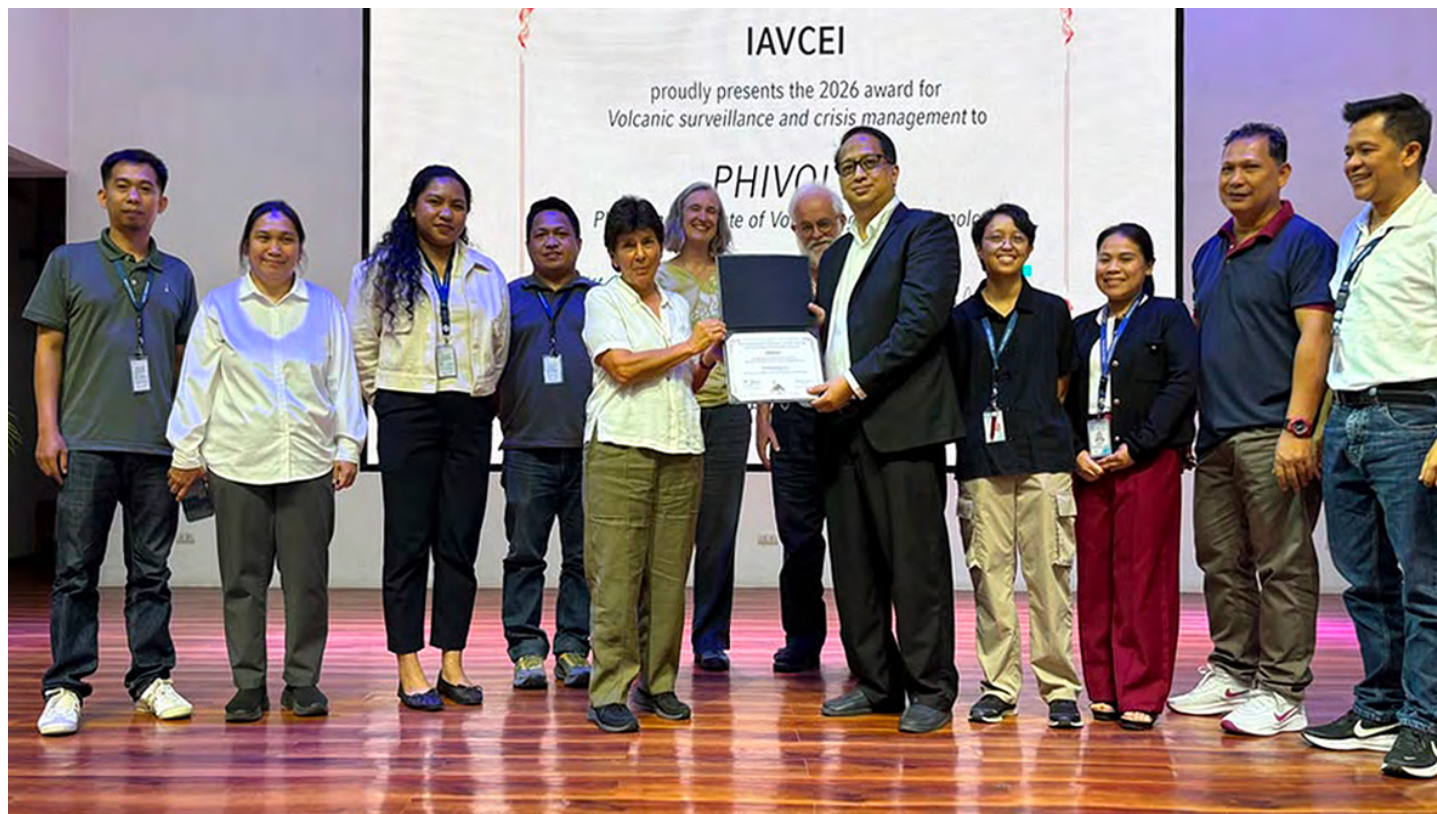
- <https://en.vedur.is/volcanoes/fagradalsfjall-eruption/hazard-map/>
- <https://en.vedur.is/about-imo/news/important-to-continue-developing-volcanic-hazard-assessment-methodology>

**William Moreland, Sara Barsotti,
Bergrún Arna Óladóttir (IMO)**



SECTION 2. IAVCEI CONFERENCES, MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

2.1 Volcanic Surveillance and Crisis Management (VSCM) Award Ceremony



Group photo of VSCM award ceremony. From Right to Left: Allan Loza (Taal), Rey Lumbang (Pinatubo), Andyline Quintia (Kanlaon), April Dominguiano (Bulusan), Teresito Bacolcol (Director), Chris Newhall (nominator), Heather Wright (nominator), Marta Calvache (IAVCEI Vice-President), Eric Abang (Hibok-Hibok), Doreen Abelinde (Mayon), Mylene Villegas (Deputy Director) Jude Arcenas (Matutum/Parker). (Picture: Beth Barthel)

The Volcanic Surveillance and Crisis Management (VSCM) Award is presented every two years during the Cities on Volcanoes (CoV) conference. As the COV13 conference was not held in 2026, the IAVCEI Executive Committee and Advisory Board decided that the 2026 award would instead be presented at the CoV regional meeting closest to the recipient.

The award committee selected PHIVOLCS, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, as the recipient of the 2026 VSCM Award, which was presented during the commemoration meeting “Pinatubo at 35: Remembering Pinatubo: Lessons from the Past, Empowering Communities,” held on 9 and 11 June 2026, at Holy Angel University, Angeles, Pampanga, and organized by the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), Holy Angel University, and the Provincial Government of Pampanga in the Philippines, with the support of the Local Government of Mabalacat, Local Government of Angeles, the Clark Development Corporation and the Makeli Food Corporation.

The meeting aimed to gather the experiences and stories of many stakeholders, including local authorities, scientists, the press, educators, and the community in areas affected by the eruption

of Mount Pinatubo. It also sought to learn about the challenges and the work that has been done to recover the region, now presented as “Rising from the Ashes of Mt. Pinatubo.”

IAVCEI Vice President Marta Calvache, together with two of the nominators, Chris Newhall and Heather Wright, presented the award on behalf of IAVCEI to PHIVOLCS Director Teresito Bacolcol and Deputy Director Mylene Villegas. Representatives from all PHIVOLCS volcanological observatories were present at the meeting, and the award announcement came as a great surprise to most attendees, as the news had been known only to a limited number of people.

Congratulations to the staff of PHIVOLCS on this well-deserved recognition of their hard work and long-standing commitment to volcanic monitoring and the assessment of volcanic hazards and risks.

IAVCEI thanks all nominators of all candidates. Nominations are an important contribution to our community, and the VSCM Award provides a valuable opportunity to recognize the outstanding efforts of individuals and organizations working to reduce volcanic risk worldwide.

2.2 IAVCEI Commission Cities and Volcanoes (CAV)

2.2.1 COV14 Host Announcement

The [Cities and Volcanoes commission](#) (CAV) invites you to join us for a free virtual event to announce the host of COV14, which will be held in 2028. The reveal will be on 20 July at 15:00 (UTC), [please register for the online event here](#). We hope you can join us live! The event will be recorded for later viewing.

The announcement would normally be made at the closing ceremony of COV13. Following the postponement of COV13, we will instead share the news through this online event.

2.2.2 Regional COV14 events in 2026

We also warmly invite you to the upcoming CAV2026: Global Volcano Communities events:

[SOUFRIÈRE 50](#): Guadeloupe, France, [5–10 July](#): Celebrating 50 years of volcano science advances fostering resilient futures – Elaborating synergies between science, risk mitigation and society: towards a shared understanding of sustainable living with volcanic activity. This conference will revisit the 1976–1977 eruption of La Soufrière of Guadeloupe, a landmark event

in Guadeloupe's history, highlighting five decades of scientific progress, growing knowledge of volcanic hazards, and evolving societal responses. It will bring together researchers, risk management professionals, public authorities, and citizens through a program of talks, panel discussions, and field visits.

[Enduring the Unrest. Facing the Eruption](#), Naples, Italy, [27–29 October](#). This addresses two distinct yet equally critical volcanic scenarios: prolonged volcanic unrest, and persistent or prolonged volcanic activity. Each poses unique challenges from scientific, sociological, territorial management, and risk governance perspectives. The workshop is structured to maximise interaction, knowledge exchange, and the integration of scientific, operational, and community perspectives. Roundtable discussions will serve as a shared arena where scientists, observatory staff, civil-protection officials, and community representatives collectively interpret case studies and operational challenges. An interactive session will guide participants in co-developing a framework for knowledge exchange and international support among volcano cities, ensuring that insights from both prolonged unrest and persistent/semi-persistent activity contribute to a coherent, globally transferable approach to volcanic risk governance. The venue can accommodate 150 persons on-site and up to 300 online participants.



2.3 IAVCEI Volcandpark 2026 Conference



Group photo of participants at Ság Hill (Little Hungarian Volcanic Field).

The [IAVCEI Volcandpark 2026 Conference](#) was held at HUN-REN Institute of Earth Physics and Space Science in Sopron, Hungary, between 26 and 29 May 2026, as an official event of the IAVCEI Commission on Volcanic Geoheritage and Protected Volcanic Landscapes. The meeting brought together more than 40 researchers, geopark professionals, educators, and geoconservation experts to discuss the scientific, educational, and societal value of volcanic geoheritage. We are very grateful for the support of IAVCEI, which helped strengthen the international visibility and scientific quality of the conference.

The scientific programme included two days of oral presentations, discussions, and networking activities. The sessions covered a wide range of topics, including volcanic geology from a geoheritage perspective, geodiversity assessment, geoconservation of volcanic regions, volcanic geoparks, geoeducation, geotourism, hazard communication, and the relationship between volcanic landscapes and society. The programme also included a roundtable discussion

about the future and the possibilities in volcanic geoheritage research, and publication-related opportunities, creating an active and friendly environment for scientific exchange. Keynote speakers of the conference were:

- Joan Martí,
- Karen Holmberg,
- Paraskevi Nomikou,
- Benjamin Van Wijk de Vries,
- Maria Fernanda Martínez-Báez Téllez, and
- Gino Gonzalez Ilama.

Paula Naomi Irapta received the MDPI Best Paper Award.

A central element of the conference was the intra-conference field day on 27 May to the Little Hungarian Plain Volcanic Field. Participants visited the Kemenes Volcano House in Celldömölk, an important geotourism centre at the foot of the monogenetic Ság Hill. The visit introduced the volcanism of Hungary and the Carpathian Basin, as well as the geological and educational



Group photo of participants at Hegyestű (Bakony-Balaton Highland Volcanic Field).

value of the 5.5-million-year-old Ság Hill basalt volcano. The field programme continued inside the former quarry of Ság Hill, where participants could directly observe the internal structure of a monogenetic volcano and discuss the links between volcanic processes, geosite conservation, and geotourism. The day concluded with the conference gala dinner and volcanic wine tasting at Somló, another iconic eroded volcanic hill.

The post-conference field trip on 29 May focused on the Bakony-Balaton Highland Volcanic Field within the Bakony-Balaton UNESCO Global Geopark. The planned stops included Tihany, Szentbékállá, Hegyestű, and Szent György Hill, showcasing inverted volcanic landscapes, basalt columns, hydroclastic deposits, mantle xenolith-bearing pyroclastic rocks, volcanic necks, magma–sediment interaction, and maar-diatreme volcanism. These field stops provided an excellent

opportunity to connect scientific research with geoconservation, geopark management, geoeducation, and the emerging theme of Deep-Earth Geoheritage.

Overall, Volcandpark 2026 successfully continued the tradition of previous Volcandpark meetings by creating a platform for interdisciplinary discussion on volcanic geoheritage and protected volcanic landscapes. The conference strengthened collaboration between the volcanological, geoheritage, geopark, and geotourism communities, and highlighted Hungary's volcanic landscapes as valuable natural laboratories for research, education, and public engagement. We sincerely thank IAVCEI for its support and for helping make the meeting a successful international event.

Mátyás Hencz, on behalf of the organisers

2.4 “Recording and interpreting pyroclastic stratigraphies” workshop: A joint workshop by the FIAMME project Team and the IAVCEI Commission for Volcanogenic Sediments

How do volcanologists approach pyroclastic exposures in the field? What data do they collect and how? How could data collection be optimised for use by analogue and numerical modellers? These are questions that have been troubling the FIAMME project team, as part of the UK-based, NERC-funded project “[FIAMME: \(An international collaboration for a\) Framework for Ignimbrite Analysis Methodologies for Modelling and hazard Evaluation](#)”. To consider some of these questions with the wider community, we held the *Recording and Interpreting Pyroclastic Stratigraphies* Workshop as part of the Volcanic and Magmatic Studies Group Annual Meeting, Southampton (8 January 2026). The workshop had 15 participants from a range of career stages, from MSc students through to Principal Scientists, from different volcanological and sedimentological backgrounds.

The workshop aimed to challenge the way in which we record and interpret pyroclastic stratigraphies, with a particular focus on the deposits from pyroclastic density currents.

The workshop first provided some training on recording pyroclastic sequences. We had some robust discussion of the numerous underlying assumptions and paradigms which we consciously or subconsciously carry with us into the field, and which may dictate different field work approaches.

As a group, we then approached a wall-sized image of an exposure of a pyroclastic sequence and discussed how we would tackle such a locality in our own field work and what data we would collect. We considered existing and accepted practices in qualitative and quantitative data capture, different sampling strategies and conceptual models for sequence interpretation. We practised taking quantitative measurements, with boxes of tephra circulated for participants to measure tephra clasts. Close up images enabled participants to apply a lithofacies approach to describing pyroclastic rocks. Following a logging exercise, we discussed how logging can aid in reconstructing PDC dynamics and depositional histories.



Some photos of the activities throughout the day-long workshop.

The workshop also served as a source of data for the FIAMME project. We collected the measurements, lithofacies descriptions and logs created by participants and are using these to understand the natural variability in data collection across individuals of different experience levels and career stages. By also capturing the discussions ‘at the exposure’, participants have informed work on developing a robust framework for ignimbrite analysis methodologies, for both modelling and hazard evaluation.

Thank you to all the participants for engaging enthusiastically with the workshop – a great day was had by all.

Rebecca Williams (Loughborough University; Co-Chair Commission for Volcanogenic Sediments), Pete Rowley (University of Bristol) and Natasha Dowey (Sheffield Hallam University)

SECTION 3. IAVCEI – DOWN TO BUSINESS

3.1 Scientific Program for the General Assembly in South Korea 2027

LAST CHANCE to submit session proposals!

The Scientific Program committee (SPC) for the [2027 General Assembly in Incheon, South Korea](#) has met on 13 January, 10 March and 5 May 2026 and further meetings will take place every 6-8 weeks. The shape of the program is close to “program freeze”. The next meeting of the SPC will be on 14 July 2026. Further session proposals should be sent before 10 July at 11.59 am Central European Time to secretary@iavceivolcano.org.

All commissions and networks had been contacted by the Vice-President Marta Calvache on 5 February 2026. The number of colleagues that select IAVCEI as their affiliation during the registration process for the GA2027 will define the financial contribution of IUGG to IAVCEI and represents a significant portion of our yearly budget for financial support. Please consider attending the GA2027 and contributing actively to the scientific program.

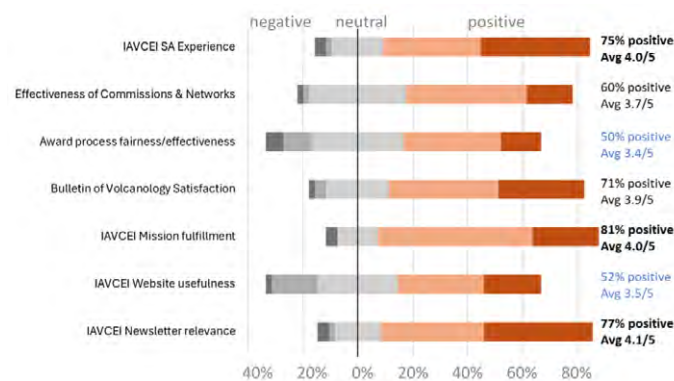
3.2 IAVCEI Member Survey

A survey conducted between December 2025 and March 2026 gathered feedback from 48 members of the IAVCEI community. Although this represents only a small fraction of IAVCEI's approximately 1,600 members, the responses provide valuable insights into the association's strengths and priorities for future development.

The survey confirms that IAVCEI is widely regarded as a strong and valuable international community. Scientific Assemblies remain one of its greatest strengths, with 75% of respondents rating their experience as good or excellent, while 81% believe the association is fulfilling its mission well or very well. Members also identified the [Newsletter](#) and the [Bulletin of Volcanology](#) as among IAVCEI's most valued communication channels. Respondents also highlighted opportunities for improvement, particularly regarding the transparency of the [awards](#) process, website usability, the visibility of [Commissions](#) and [Networks](#), and accessibility through greater financial support, hybrid participation, and reduced barriers for colleagues from underrepresented regions.

Encouragingly, many of these priorities align with initiatives already undertaken by the [Executive Committee](#) and [Advisory Board](#). Recent actions include establishing an [Advocating Committee](#) to promote diverse nominations, introducing independent award committees and [standardized nomination procedures](#), appointing a DEIA Advisor and launching a DEIA Network, adopting a [Code of Conduct](#), revising the [Statutes and By-Laws](#), and strengthening regional partnerships. Significant progress has also been made in improving the website and communicating the [benefits of IAVCEI membership](#).

Recent Scientific Assemblies also demonstrate progress toward greater inclusion. The 2025 Scientific Assembly in Geneva welcomed more than 1,050 participants from 62 countries, with over half identifying as Early Career Researchers and more than 40 travel grants awarded across 16 countries. Lessons learned from both the Rotorua (2023) and Geneva (2025) meetings have already been shared with the organizers of the 2029 Scientific Assembly to support continuous improvement.



*Quantitative results overview. Likert questions are shown as diverging bars; positive results are to the right. **Strongest scores:** Mission fulfillment; Newsletter relevance; Past Scientific Assemblies.*

The survey also highlights growing expectations for IAVCEI to play a stronger role in addressing global challenges, including volcanism and climate, geoheritage, the energy transition, artificial intelligence, disaster risk reduction, and equitable international collaboration. These priorities are already reflected in several recent IAVCEI initiatives, including the establishment of Working Groups on [Global Challenges](#), [Volcano Tourism](#), and [Multi-hazard and Early Warning in Volcanology](#). Beyond these internal initiatives, IAVCEI continues to contribute to international efforts through its involvement in [Early Warnings for All](#), increased and focussed use of Artificial Intelligence via [AI for Good](#), and the development of the [INVOLC guidelines for inclusive international collaboration](#).

Overall, the survey reinforces that IAVCEI's challenge is not to redefine its mission, but to strengthen accessibility, visibility, communication, and consistency across its activities. We thank all members who participated in the survey and encourage everyone to continue engaging with IAVCEI and its initiatives. For those interested in getting involved, or unsure how to engage, please contact the [Executive Committee](#).

3.3 Events and Meetings 2026–2029

IAVCEI events 2026

*indicates IUGG financial support was granted for this event

Soufrière 50

5–10 July, Saint-Claude, Guadeloupe Island, France
[commission Cities and Volcanoes]

7th Conference Alfred Rittmann

7–9 July, Catania, Italy
[Associazione Italiana di Vulcanologia, IAVCEI-sponsored]

ITU Global Initiative on Resilience to Natural Hazards through AI Solutions

*7–10 July, Geneva, Switzerland
[International Telecommunication Union, IAVCEI-sponsored]

Cities on Volcanoes 13 **POSTPONED**

12–17 July, Bend, USA
[Cities and Volcanoes commission]

LIP-IDC 2026 International Conference on Large Igneous Provinces and their Dyke Swarms **POSTPONED TO 2027**

*3–7 August, Nyeri, Kenya
[Large Igneous Provinces commission]
<https://lipidc9.sciencesconf.org/>

Bushveld complex: The largest fossilized magma chamber in the Earth crust?

*21–25 August, Eastern Bushveld complex, South Africa
[Volcanic and Igneous Plumbing Systems commission]

EMSEV 2026

*24–28 August, Kumamoto, Japan
[Electromagnetic Studies of Earthquakes and Volcanoes, IUGG inter-association commission]

Field workshop “Glaciovolcanism and Hazards at Mount Rainier

*13–18 September, Washington, USA
[Volcano-Ice Interactions commission, IUGG inter-association commission]

9th CCC workshop

*20–26 September, Valles Caldera (New Mexico), USA
[Collapse Calderas commission]

TIGER – Tracking and Investigating Geodynamics and Earth Rotation

28 September – 1 October, Gävle, Sweden
[IAVCEI-sponsored, IAG/IAVCEI joint commission on Volcano Geodesy]

The record of normal and unusual volcanic-arc activity at the foot of the Andes

*5–9 October, San Carlos de Bariloche, Patagonia, Argentina
[Commission on Volcanogenic Sediments]

International School on Drone and VR for Volcano-Tectonic Studies

6–10 October, Nicolosi, Italy
[IAVCEI-sponsored]

2nd Submarine Volcanism Workshop

*19–23 October, Fira, Santorini Island, Greece
[Commission on Submarine Volcanism]

International School of Volcanology 2026

22–27 October, Naples, Italy
[Italian Association of Volcanology, IAVCEI-sponsored]

Enduring the Unrest, Facing the Eruption

*27–29 October, Naples, Italy
[Commission Cities and Volcanoes]

2nd International Conference

*2–5 November, Nevados de Chillan, Chile
[Volcanic and Igneous Plumbing Systems commission]

7th World Landslide Forum

23–27 November, Faridabad, India
[IUGG International Consortium on Landslides]

IAVCEI events 2027

8th Volcano Geology workshop

7–13 March, Southern Kyushu (Kirishima and Sakurajima), Japan
[Volcano Geology commission]

29th General Assembly

16–22 July, Incheon, South Korea
[IUGG]

Volcano Observatory Best Practices 6 (VOBP6)

20–24 September, Nicolosi, Italy
[WOVO Network]

IAVCEI events 2029

Scientific Assembly

1–6 July, San José, Costa Rica
[IAVCEI]

SECTION 4. NEWS FROM MEMBERS

4.1 Order of the British Empire to Peter Baxter

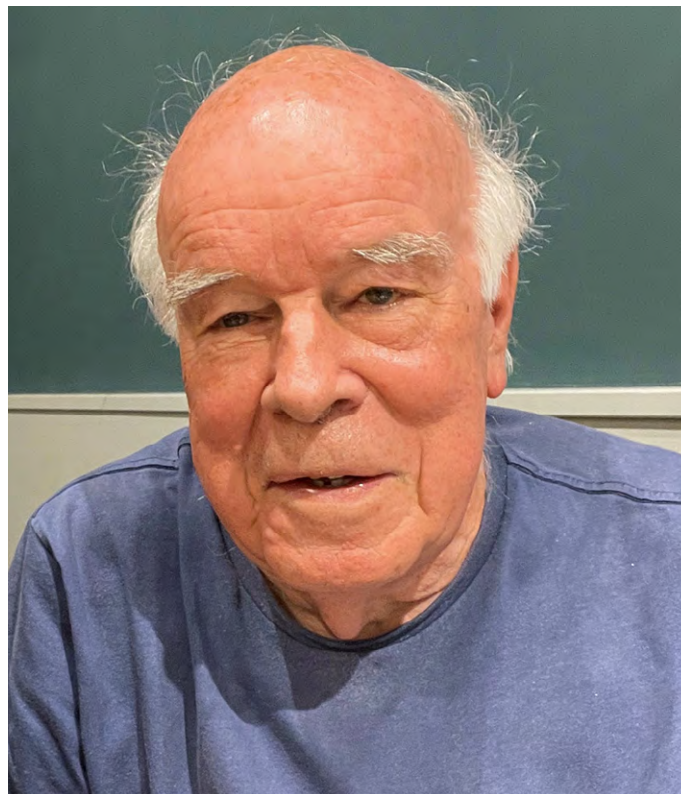
Peter Baxter to be awarded an *Order of the British Empire* in the UK King's Birthday Honours

Peter Baxter is the world's leading expert on the medical aspects and health effects of volcanic eruptions and is to be awarded an OBE (Order of the British Empire) by King Charles III. An OBE is a major national honour and recognises Peter's unique and pioneering contributions to public health. Peter's work has contributed to basic knowledge on trauma from volcanic eruptions, on the health effects of volcanic dusts and gas emissions, and he has used this knowledge to develop practical strategies to mitigate and protect the public from these threats.

His interest in the environment and public health began when he joined the UK Health and Safety Executive in 1974 as an epidemiologist and toxicologist. In 1979 he joined the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, USA. This move to the USA turned out to be a pivotal moment in his life. Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980 and he became involved in assessing the health effects of volcanic dust. He quickly realised that there was almost no scientific literature on the subject and, more generally, about the injuries, trauma and malign health effects of volcanic eruptions. Thus began a lifelong career and passion dedicated to filling a knowledge chasm.

He left the CDC in 1989 and returned to the UK Health and Safety Executive in 1986 but, immediately, became part of a UK scientific team assisting at the Lake Nyos disaster when a natural overturning of a CO₂ rich volcanic lake unleashed a deadly flow of CO₂ that swept through many nearby villages, resulting in 1800 deaths. His meticulous medical documentation of the casualties became a landmark study and expanded his interests into the harmful and sometimes fatal effects of volcanic gases. He also began to research impact and burn injuries caused by explosive eruptions and hot pyroclastic flows and, perhaps of more importance, to assess strategies to protect individuals and populations.

He joined the Department of Public Health and Primary Care at University Hospital (Addenbrookes) at Cambridge University in 1989. He became a specialist in environmental medicine (in toxicology and epidemiology) for investigating the public health implications of harmful exposures to toxic dusts and chemicals. His interest in the medical effects of volcanic hazards became his major passion and he started to travel to many active volcanoes around the world and started to compile observations and develop his ideas on mitigation. In 1995, the eruption of the Soufrière Hills volcano on Montserrat began and Peter soon became the main source of advice to the Governments of the UK and Montserrat on medical matters. His discovery that the finest volcanic dust from Soufrière Hills contained abundant crystalline silica was a landmark study leading to a major concern about exposure of the population to this potentially toxic material with immediate effects on those with respiratory diseases (e.g. asthma) and long-term concerns about silicosis. Peter's advice resulted in widespread use of masks and simple measures to reduce dust getting into houses.



Peter Baxter in May 2025 (Picture: Claire Horwell).

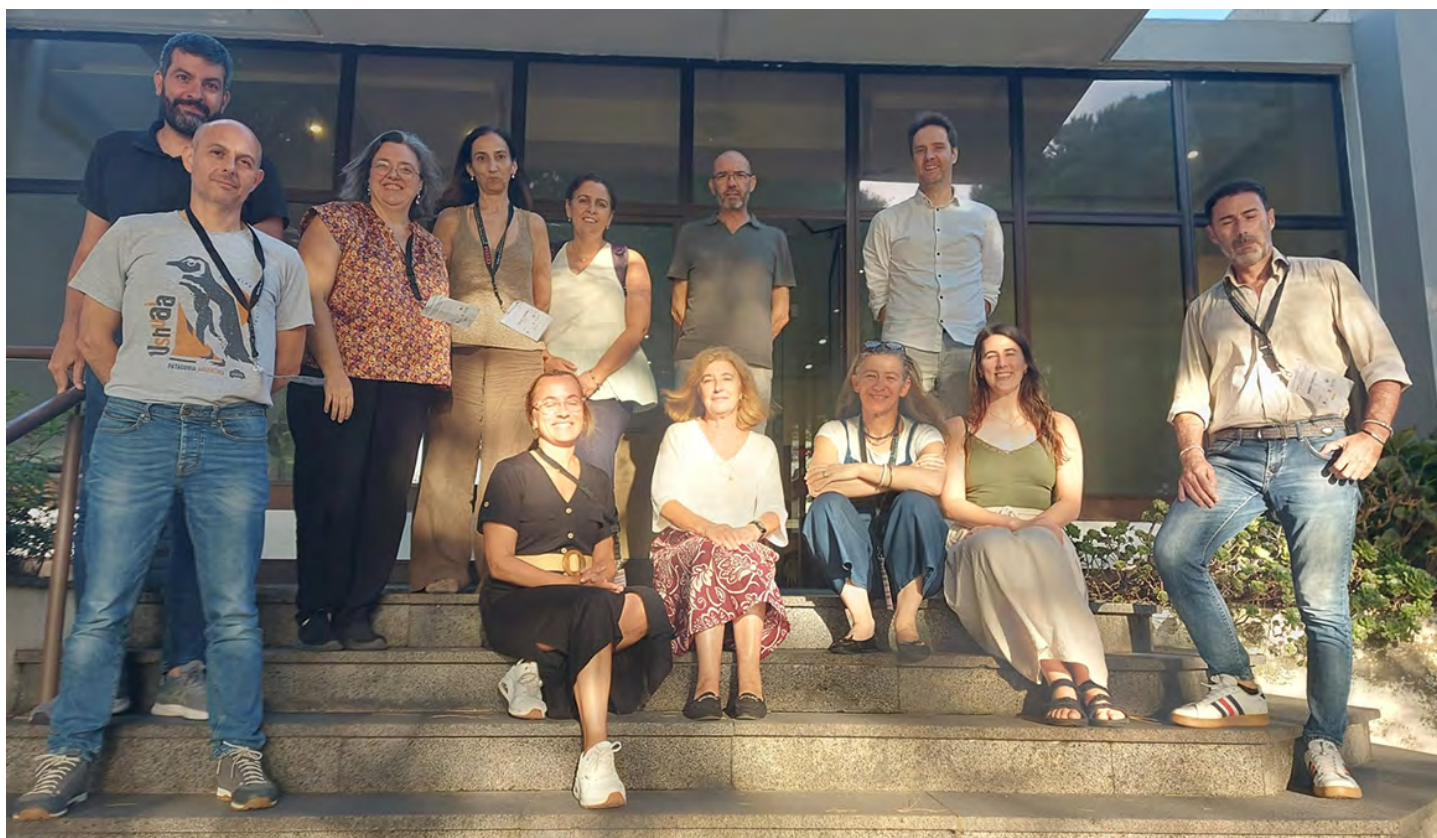
Peter – as the recognised global expert on health related to volcanic hazards – was in demand around the world for advice and insights and so was involved in projects supported by the WHO, US Aid, the French Foreign Ministry, the Italian government agency (INGV) and Worksafe New Zealand as well as with UK ministries. His work has included studies and advice related to the Mount Pinatubo (Philippines) eruption in 1991 and the eruption of Nyiragongo volcano (Democratic Republic of Congo) in 2006. His national service roles include being a member of UK Scientific Advisory Group for (volcanic) Emergencies (SAGE), sitting on the UK Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards and being an expert member of the 2005 Buncefield Major Incident Investigation, illustrating how his expertise on exposure to airborne pollutants was recognised beyond volcanic scenarios.

Peter has been a ubiquitous figure at international conferences in volcanology and, in particular, those attended by civil protection agencies. His influence, expertise and advice are behind guidelines for the public and emergency services on how to deal with medical trauma and how to protect people. Further he has a legacy of over 200 publications which played a key pioneering role in founding the field of medical volcanology.

Congratulations to Peter on behalf of IAVCEI!

Steve Sparks with contribution from Claire Horwell

4.2 The European Volcano Observatory Network



EVON representatives during a coordination meeting in Ponta Delgada, Azores, in October 2025.

Volcano observatories worldwide have long collaborated through international frameworks, such as the IAVCEI Network of [World Organization of Volcano Observatories \(WOVO\)](#). At a European level, collaboration has been ongoing since the late 1980s, leading to a series of successful initiatives, including the [European Laboratory Volcanoes \(ELV\)](#), the ongoing European Plate Observing System [EPOS-EU](#), the H2020 European research project [EUROVOLC](#), and the [Aristotle – ENHSP](#) (European Natural Hazards Scientific Partnership). These efforts have demonstrated the value of sustained coordination and highlighted the need for effective cooperation among volcano observatories and monitoring institutions. As a result, under the umbrella of the DG-ECHO/ERCC, the **European Volcano Observatory Network (EVON)** was formally established through a Memorandum of Understanding signed in late 2025 by its five founding Institutions:

- Icelandic Meteorological Office (IMO),
- Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV, Italy),
- Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN, Spain),
- Instituto de Investigação em Vulcanologia e Avaliação de Riscos / Centro de Informação e Vigilância Sismovulcânica dos Açores (IVAR-CIVISA, Azores, Portugal), and
- the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI).

EVON aims to provide a flexible framework for coordinated cooperation among European volcano observatories and monitoring institutions. The network seeks to strengthen scientific and operational collaboration, promote harmonized monitoring practices and data standards, and facilitate knowledge sharing

and mutual support, particularly in preparedness and crisis response. Through this collaboration, EVON contributes to the long-term development of European capacity for volcano monitoring, hazard assessment, and disaster risk reduction.

Recently, an Advisory Board with the formal role of offering strategic and professional guidance was nominated. Its members are as follows:

- Dr. Philippe Hereil – Météo France, France
- Dr. Rosalind Lapsley – Eurocontrol, Belgium
- Dr. Marta Calvache – Servicio Geológico Colombiano, Colombia
- Dr. Patrick Allard – Institut de physique du globe de Paris, France
- Dr. Gill Jolly – Earth Sciences New Zealand, New Zealand
- Dr. Soledad Osóres – Servicio Meteorológico Nacional, Argentina

One of the objectives of EVON is also to scout for research opportunities and fundings to exploit further the collaboration. Since 1 January 2026, EVON has been involved in a networking project funded by ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) called EVON-avi and led by the IMO. The main goal of this project is to harmonise the way European Volcano Observatories provide critical information to the aviation sector during volcanic crises, including harmonizing how volcanic plume height is assessed via calibrated cameras, how VONAs are formatted and disseminated, and how the aviation colour code is operated. More can be found about the EVON-avi project on the [IMO's website](#).

Looking ahead, EVON aims to further strengthen its operational and scientific role by expanding participation and deepening collaboration. The goal is to engage additional European partners and, ultimately, to include all the European Volcano Observatories and institutions with governmental mandate for monitoring. By continuing to build a robust and trusted network, EVON

seeks to enhance Europe's collective capacity for volcanic monitoring, hazard assessment, and risk reduction, in alignment with and supporting international initiatives such as WOVO and IAVCEI.

Lovisa Mjöll Guðmundsdóttir (IMO) on behalf of EVON

4.3 Geoffrey Wadge (1949–2026) Obituary

Geoff Wadge was one of the most influential volcanologists of his generation with important contributions on volcano remote sensing, volcano deformation, volcanic hazards assessment and physical volcanology. He played a pioneering role in the application of remote sensing to monitoring and investigating active volcanoes. Geoff was educated in geology at Imperial College and came under the inspiring influence of George Walker who supervised his landmark PhD (1971–1974) on Mount Etna in a superb documentation of ground deformation and magma production rates. He was appointed lecturer at the University of the West Indies (UWI) in Jamaica in 1975 and so began a life-long interest in the volcanoes and tectonics of the Eastern Caribbean. As a visiting research scientist post at the Lunar and Planetary Science Unit, Houston (1979–1982) he began investigations of the tectonics of the Eastern Caribbean. Under the influence of Tom McGetchin, he realised the potential of remote sensing to study active volcanoes. He then moved back to UWI and joined the Seismic Research Unit in Trinidad.



Geoff (forward) outside the Montserrat Volcano Observatory in 2014 with colleagues from the Scientific Advisory Committee for Montserrat. From left to right: Willy Aspinall, Juergen Neuberg, Steve Sparks, Barry Voight and Jenni Barclay.

Geoff's time in the Caribbean led to the now famous assessment of the volcanic hazards of the Soufrière Hills Volcano, Montserrat with Michael Isaacs. Their report in 1988 was sent to the Governments of Montserrat and the UK. In 1995 the volcano started its first historic eruption. The Wadge and Isaacs report was extraordinarily prescient. It anticipated the eruption and forecast the key consequences, thereby becoming a critical document for dealing with a major emergency. Their report is an outstanding example of how to carry out and apply a scientific assessment of hazards from a major volcanic eruption. He also contributed to managing the Montserrat emergency with his Chairing of the FCO Scientific Advisory Committee for Montserrat from 2003–2014. Frank Savage (Governor of Montserrat 1995–1998) commented that he became a household name in Montserrat for the great service to the community over more than 30 years.

From 1985 to his retirement Geoff was employed in the Department of Meteorology at Reading University. Geoff became Director of the Environmental Systems Science Centre (ESSC) at Reading in 2012 and full Professor in the Department of Meteorology in 2014, where he pioneered research on remote sensing. His many achievements included: influential publications on high resolution geodesy of active deforming volcanoes; developing the use of radar in volcanology; and being a key figure in advocating

volcano-dedicated remote sensing missions. He was a key figure in establishing the multidisciplinary UK Centre for Observation and Modelling of Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tectonics (COMET). Geoff chaired the steering committee of COMET. The importance of his research was recognised in 2015 with award of the Murchison Medal by the Geological Society of London.

Geoff's research work was characterised by meticulous observations, thoroughness, a flair for analytical thinking and great originality. He leaves a legacy of outstanding research that benefitted society. He is known for his integrity, sharp intellect and inspiring teaching. He had many interests outside science and lighter moments. In his youth he was a keen pot-holer and mountaineer, and was an avid follower of his hometown football club Burnley in Lancashire. His passion for Morris Dancing, an English folk tradition involving colourful costumes, bells and ceremonial sticks, led to teaching the dances to the staff at the Montserrat Observatory. He loved Caribbean music and was famed for his duet with the Mighty Arrow in a rendition of "Hot, Hot, Hot". He will be missed by his many friends and colleagues.

He is survived by his wife Linda, son, daughter and grandson.

Steve Sparks with help from Willy Aspinall and Frank Savage