REPORT ON THE EGU/CERG FORM-OSE Post-Graduate Training School 2016

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I am a Spanish PhD student in the third year of his doctoral period. My research project aims at forecasting the occurrence of rainfall-triggered landslides in the North of Spain.

Last July, I was privileged enough to participate in the EGU/CoE FORM-OSE Postgraduate Training School 2016, celebrated in the beautiful setting of São Miguel Island, in the Azores (Portugal). For a PhD student like myself, to be selected to participate in such event constitutes an incredible opportunity.

First of all, the attendance in the training course results very attractive to me not only for the thematic related to landslide hazards, but also for the participation of some of the most renowned experts in the field worldwide. I must confess that, at the beginning, I was quite concerned about having to present my research before a group of first-rate international experts. However, I was pleasantly surprised by the relaxed atmosphere and the interest and enthusiasm of all the lecturers in advising us and discussing our work in a constructive way. This was undoubtedly one of the real strengths of this course.

Another attractive aspect of the course was the two filed trips. It is sometimes difficult to achieve the practical realisation of our research. However, Azores constitutes a natural laboratory where is absolutely necessary the practical implementation of the scientific knowledge to keep the population safety. It was very interesting for me to visit the main elements of the monitoring network existing in São Miguel Island and to fully understand the effective functioning of a warning system not only for landsliding but also for other natural hazards, such as active volcanism, earthquakes or degassing processes. And of course, I really enjoyed visiting the volcanos and the fumarolic fields, without forgetting a spontaneous dip with other students in Caldeiras da Ribera Grande.

Finally, the opportunity to meet other young researchers like me was without doubt one of the best points of the training course. It was incredibly rewarding for me to chat with them about our common interests and issues and to exchange experiences and pieces of advice.

For all the aforementioned, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people involved in the organization of the training course for their efforts and for giving me the opportunity to participate. I should also like to express my gratitude to the International Association of Geomorphologists for awarding me a grant to favour my participation in the course.

All that remains for me to do, finally, is to encourage all the young researchers specialized in natural hazards to apply for the next EGU/CoE FORM-OSE Post-graduate Training School.

Good luck!