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Andalusian scientists create Spain's largest seismic and GPS station network

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> nächste Meldung

Andalusian scientists take part in a research project called Geociencias en Iberia: Estudios integrados de topografía y evaluación 4D. Topo-Iberia (geosciences in Iberia- integrated studies o topography and 4D assessment.

Topo-Iberia), whose aim is to create Spain's largest seismic and GPS station network. This initiative, which will involve over 103 research doctors from ten different Spanish teams, will allow to get better models of the lithosphere structure from natural seismicity, by creating an unprecedented large reliable database and quantifying the current seismic movements in the Iberian Peninsula.

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In order to carry out this research project, the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science subsidized it with a 4.5 million euros-grant last autumn. The Andalusian groups involved in the project belong to the universities of Jaén, Cádiz and Pablo Olavide, and will be coordinated by the head of the Geodynamics Department of the University of Granada, Dr. Francis González Lodeiro.

This project implies the display of a temporary broad band seismic network without precedent in Spain; it will consist of a minimum of 80 seismic stations about 50-60 km away from each other, which will give simultaneous homogeneous coverage to different regions. In addition to this, Topo-Iberia will create

Spain's largest GPS network ever.

The real novelty of this project is that it provides an integrated analysis of the influence of superficial and deep processes, like other international top projects as TopoEurope/EuroArray in Europe and the Earthscope program in the USA.

Thanks to this initiative, researchers will be able to know the processes and mechanisms that cause seismic movements (both superficial and deep one: which currently occur in the Iberian Peninsula and their relationship with the rest of Spain and Africa. In addition to this, Topo-Iberia tackles the structure and dynamics of the lithosphere in Spain.

Seismic hazard map

In addition to this, a team of researchers of the University of Granada, in collaboration with Italian scientists, are analysing the epicentres of earthquakes that occurred in the past in order to make seismic hazard map to avoid future damage. The exact point where disasters were caused. such