Earthquake Education Projects: Some experiences in Abruzzo and Lazio

This work describes some activities of information and earthquake education in ABRUZZO and LAZIO started some months later the April 6, 2009 L’Aquila earthquake. These initiatives arise from different experiences and skills gained in recent years in seismic risk reduction projects (EDURISK Project) and in the field of information and emergency management.

This initiative started after a seismic sequence with more than 400 small earthquakes in southern Lazio in August-September 2009. The “Tutte je munne trémã… Je nò!” project in February and March 2010 allowed us to meet more than 1000 teachers of 26 schools to provide information about recent and historical seismicity and seismic hazard of the Frosinone Province.

The meetings have been designed specifically for these projects, both in content and methodology. In every meeting have been proposed some basic modules developed normally with EDURISK project, taking into account the considerable experience gained during the project and initiatives developed in recent months (Nostro et al., oral presentation in OS2 session), integrated with information on emergency plans and school buildings.

Part 1 (knowledge):
The historical seismicity and seismic hazard of Abruzzo or Lazio, the evolution of the 2009 sequences, information for risk reduction.

Part 2 (exploration of experiences):
Processing experiences, individual and group experiences on the earthquake: how to face and manage their own emotions and those of others.

Part 3 (skills):
Description of the correct behaviors in case of earthquake and evacuation plans; retrofitting of existing school buildings.

The staff consisted of a seismologist, a psychologist (INGV or voluntary association "Psychologists for People") and a technician (Municipality or Province) responsible for school safety planning.

18 schools in ABRUZZO (L’Aquila, Teramo and Pescara Provinces) are still working in the EDURISK Project, a project aimed to school for seismic risk reduction (described in another work of this session) and other 13 schools in LAZIO (Frosinone Province) have applied to join the project next year.