



International Continental Scientific Drilling Program, ICDP Workshop Announcement

ICDP announces an international workshop on the scientific project "***Drilling the North Anatolian Fault***", 23-27 April 2007 in Istanbul/Turkey. The aim of this meeting is to discuss and strengthen plans for a deep drilling project combined with the installation of a borehole observatory at the North Anatolian Fault Zone in western Turkey.

The North Anatolian Fault Zone (NAFZ) is the most active plate-bounding strike-slip fault in Europe and western Asia trending EW offshore through the Sea of Marmara within 20 km south of Istanbul. The fault has produced a series of large and devastating earthquakes during the 20th century. Two major earthquakes occurred in 1999 near Izmit and Düzce in Western Turkey producing accelerated seismic activity along the NAFZ and enhancing the earthquake probability close to the megacity of Istanbul.

The project focuses on the installation of a borehole observatory in a deep borehole at NAFZ aiming at a long-term monitoring effort to study seismic activity, stress, heat and fluid flow. The current target area is located offshore Istanbul in the Marmara Sea in the direct vicinity of the main branch of the NAFZ. The location of the projected observatory is unique representing the only possible long-term monitoring site in close proximity to the NAFZ and the city of Istanbul. It is located at the transition between the western end of the 1999 Izmit rupture and an up to 150 km long seismic gap along the western NAFZ that may have accumulated a 4-5 m slip deficit in the past 250 years.

The workshop will be held at the Armada Hotel in Istanbul, Turkey. During the workshop we intend to briefly review the state of the art of recent and ongoing research activities at the Marmara segment of the NAFZ, discuss science and technology for drilling and long-term observations, and outline a proposal to ICDP for submission in January 2008. The workshop will include 3 days of presentations and discussions and a one-day trip to the envisaged drilling location on the Princes Islands offshore Istanbul.

Scientists interested in participating at this workshop are invited to submit a brief summary of their field of research, describing their intended contribution to this international scientific drilling project. The workshop will include approx. 50 researchers who will be invited to participate based on their research summary. Please note that preference will be given to scientists from ICDP member countries. ICDP will attempt to cover the travel expenses for the participants.

Interested parties should submit an application to Georg Dresen (dre@gfz-potsdam.de) and rha@gfz-potsdam.de), GeoForschungsZentrum, Potsdam,, Telegrafenberg D426, 14473 Potsdam, Germany, Fax: ++49 331 288 1328