

## INTERRAGATE

Natural disasters continue to exact an enormous toll in developed and developing countries alike, both in terms of loss of life and economic damage. 2005 alone saw 91,963 lives lost and 157,511,938 people affected in a series of geophysical events that included the Kashmir earthquake, Hurricane Katrina, and the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami. All of these highlighted a fundamental need for a global, country-by-country hazard database designed to provide disaster management NGOs, humanitarian agencies, and others with a vested interest, with some foreknowledge of future hazardous events and specific threats, together with essential in-country information and real-time postevent information, such as satellite imagery and maps of affected areas. In particular, there is a dearth of information on, for example, which volcanoes are due for eruption or which seismogenic fault segments can be expected to rupture in the short term.



The screenshot shows the inTERRAgate website with a navigation menu at the top (Home, News, Hazards, Countries, inTERRAgate, Forums, About Us, Contact Us). The main content area features a news article titled "Third Early Warning Conference, Bonn" with a photo of a conference room. A sidebar on the right lists various categories and links. A world map is visible in the background of the news section.

[www.inTERRAgate.info](http://www.inTERRAgate.info)

- A hazard profile for every nation
- Forecasts and early warnings of hazardous events
- Past disasters and their impacts
- In-country contact portfolios
- Comprehensive links to information sources, including online GIS applications
- Post-disaster maps and satellite imagery
- Discussion boards

inTERRAgate is an online information gateway designed to fill this knowledge gap through providing country-by-country hazard profiles accompanied by the flagging of potential future threats. This information will be available to disaster mitigation, management, and relief organisations, contributing towards more effective preparedness and response.

Upon completion, inTERRAgate will have the ability to automatically update many of its facilities, and will also - uniquely - permit the uploading of information by registered users in order to maximise available data and minimise obsolescence. In addition, discussion boards will provide a platform for the exchange of vital information between interested groups as a disaster unfolds. Users will also be able to sign up to the site to receive details of important developments and events. Ultimately, inTERRAgate will contain hazard information on over 190 nations. It is planned, however, to launch the gateway in October 2006, with an initial focus on 10 of the most natural hazard-prone countries.

InTERRAgate is a joint initiative of the BHRC and British search & rescue charity, SARAID, and is currently funded by UCL Futures. We are actively seeking further project sponsors and data providers to add value to the inTERRAgate project. If you feel you would like to make a contribution, please contact Project Manager, Lucy Stanbrough at [l.stanbrough@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:l.stanbrough@ucl.ac.uk)