

Newsletters

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Training Course on Scientific Investigation Methods and Technologies of Large Earthquakes for the Belt and Road Initiative Countries will be held on next month

The Training Course on Scientific Investigation Methods and Technologies of Large Earthquakes for the Belt and Road Initiative Countries, initiated by the IASPEI Comm. RI²sE, will be held in June 2026. A total of 25 technical staff and disaster management personnel in earthquake research and response from five countries—Jordan, Laos, Morocco, Thailand, and Uzbekistan—will participate in the training. Centered on the theme “Seismic Investigation Technologies and Applications,” the course will deliver lectures on a range of core theoretical and methodological topics, including visual seismology, earthquake monitoring based on big data and artificial intelligence, fluid geochemical observation, seismic deformation monitoring, remote-sensing-based disaster interpretation, and short-term and imminent earthquake prediction together with earthquake sequence determination.

International Symposium on the Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquake will be held on July

International Symposium on the Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquake

Theme

Focusing on recent advances in interdisciplinary investigation technologies, international cooperation mechanisms, and practical experience from major earthquake investigations.

Topics related to earthquake scientific investigation and related technologies are all welcome.

Time

26-28 July, 2026

Venue

Pullman Tangshan (Address: No. 99, Weiguo South Road, Lunan District, Tangshan, Hebei, China)

Schedule

26th July: Registration

27th July: Opening Ceremony, Keynote Plenary, Oral Sessions, Poster Sessions, Closing Ceremony

28th July: Departure / Opening Ceremony of International Conference on Earthquake Engineering Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Great Tangshan Earthquake

Background

The IASPEI Commission on the Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes (Comm. RI²sE) was established at the IAGA-IASPEI Joint Scientific Assembly held in Portugal in September 2025.

RI²sE aims to serve as a platform to integrate expertise from earthquake and engineering seismology, geodesy, geology, geo-electromagnetics, geochemistry, hydrology, and social sciences.

To build a high-level academic exchange and cooperation platform for global earthquake scientific investigation, discuss the cutting-edge technologies for rapid interdisciplinary investigation of significant earthquakes, RI²sE in cooperation with Institute of Earthquake Forecasting (IEF), China Earthquake Administration (CEA), will held International Symposium on the Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes in Tangshan, Hebei Province, China, on 26-28 July, 2026.

Invited Participants



Ilkhom Alimukhamedov
Deputy Director and Professor,
Institute of Seismology, Academy of
Sciences of Uzbekistan



Sergio Barrientos
Executive Committee Member of
IASPEI, Professor of the University
of Chile



Chen Jie
Professor of Institute of Geology (IG),
China Earthquake Administration (CEA)



Mohamed ElGabry
Member of IASPEI Comm. RI²sE,
President of African Seismological
Commission (AfSC), Professor of
National Research Institute of
Astronomy and Geophysics, Egypt



Harsh Gupta
Scientific Advisor of IASPEI Comm.
RI²sE, Former President of IUGG and
AOGS, Fellow of Indian National
Science Academy, Professor of National
Geophysical Research Institute, India



Vladimir Kosobokov
Professor, Institute of Earthquake
Prediction Theory and Mathematical
Geophysics, Russian Academy of
Sciences



Li Jie
Deputy director and Professor of
Earthquake Agency Of Xinjiang Uygur
Autonomous Region



Li Li
1st Vice-President of IASPEI, Secretary
General of ASC, Director and Professor
of Institute of Geophysics (IGP), China
Earthquake Administration (CEA)



Li Ying
Chairman of IASPEI Comm. RI²sE,
Deputy Director and Professor of
Institute of Earthquake Forecasting
(IEF), China Earthquake
Administration (CEA)



Li Yonghua
Professor of Institute of Geophysics
(IGP), China Earthquake Administration
(CEA)



Prantik Mandal
Member of IASPEI Comm. RI²sE,
Professor of National Geophysical
Research Institute, India



Meng Guojie
Professor of Institute of Earthquake
Forecasting (IEF), China Earthquake
Administration (CEA)



Walter Mooney
Member of IASPEI Comm. RI²sE,
Professor of United States Geological
Survey (USGS)



Kenji Satake
Former President of IASPEI, Professor
of Tokyo University



Ruben Tatevossian
President of Asian Seismological
Commission (ASC), Professor of
Institute of Physics of the Earth,
Russian Academy of Sciences



Wu Qingju
Professor of Institute of Geophysics (IGP),
China Earthquake Administration (CEA)



Wu Zhongliang
IUGG Fellow, Scientific Advisor of
IASPEI Comm. RI²sE, Former President
of IASPEI, Professor of Institute of
Earthquake Forecasting (IEF), China
Earthquake Administration (CEA)



Yuan Renmao
Professor of Institute of Geology (IG),
China Earthquake Administration (CEA)

Hosts

- ◎ Commission on the Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes (Comm. RI²sE), International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI)
- ◎ Institute of Earthquake Forecasting (IEF), China Earthquake Administration (CEA)

Co-organizers

- ◎ Seismological Society of Hebei Province
- ◎ Tangshan Emergency Management Bureau
- ◎ Key Laboratory of Earthquake Forecasting and Risk Assessment, Ministry of Emergency Management
- ◎ Key Laboratory of Earthquake Forecasting, CEA
- ◎ Tengchong, Deep Tectonic Activities, Observation and Research Station of Yunnan Province
- ◎ APEC Cooperation for Earthquake Science (ACES)
- ◎ Collaboratory for the study of earthquake predictability (CSEP) China Center (CN-CSEP)
- ◎ International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) -724

Presentation Guidelines

a. Oral Presentations

- Talk duration: 20 minutes (+/including Q&A)

b. Poster Presentations

- Recommended Size: 90 cm (width) × 120 cm (height) (portrait orientation)

Oral and poster presentation templates are available for download at: <https://www.ief.ac.cn/IASPEI-RI2SE>

Registration

Warmly welcome all experts and scholars to join the symposium. Registration is free. Please register via the link below or the QR code by 5 July, 2026.

<https://www.bagevent.com/event/registerTicket/9216182>



Contact

Email: RI2SE@ief.ac.cn

Website: <https://www.ief.ac.cn/IASPEI-RI2SE/>

[International Contest on Aftershock Forecasting's Registration Deadline is coming soon](#)

Please note: The registration deadline is May 31st, 24:00 UTC, which corresponds to June 1st, 08:00 Beijing Time.

International Contest on Aftershock Forecasting

Background

Earthquakes are among the most destructive natural disasters. Large earthquakes can cause significant economic losses and casualties. A destructive mainshock is usually followed by numerous aftershocks, and in some cases an earthquake of comparable or even greater magnitude may occur, causing further damage to already weakened buildings and infrastructure and affecting emergency response and post-disaster reconstruction. The frequency, magnitude, and spatial distribution of aftershocks are directly related to the effectiveness of emergency response and the rational allocation of resources. Therefore, accurate prediction of the largest aftershock, especially its magnitude and occurrence time, is of great importance.

At present, aftershock forecasting still faces many challenges, and most forecasting methods continue to rely on statistical models. In recent years, however, the rapid development of big data analytics, artificial intelligence, and related technologies has created new opportunities for improving aftershock forecasting. Advances in statistical methods, physical modeling, and AI-based approaches may lead to major breakthroughs in forecasting capability.

To promote progress in this field, **the International Contest on Aftershock Forecasting** has been launched. This contest aims to clarify key scientific and technological issues in earthquake-sequence forecasting, bring together global expertise, and promote interdisciplinary collaboration through emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and large models. It seeks to improve the accuracy of aftershock forecasting and to provide ideas and references for forecasting subsequent strong earthquakes in seismic sequences, thereby enhancing global capacity for earthquake disaster response.

Stage Schedule

- **Competition period:** March 31– November 30, 2026 (UTC Time)
- **Qualifying Stage** (March 31 – May 31, 2026): Teams will be evaluated on 20 historical aftershock sequences of $M_w \geq 6.0$ earthquakes.
- **Ranking Stage** (June 1 – November 30, 2026): Teams will forecast the largest aftershock for each newly occurring $M_w \geq 6.0$ mainshock with focal depth less than 70 km during the competition window. Rankings will be updated once a month.
- **Recommendation:** Submit predictions for all reported $M_w \geq 6.0$ events to ensure eligibility.

Awards

- Total prize pool:** USD 30,000 (all prize amounts are pre-tax)
- First Prize (1 award):** USD 10,000 and a certificate
- Second Prize (2 awards):** USD 5,000 each and a certificate
- Third Prize (5 awards):** USD 2,000 each and a certificate

Registration and Submission

Open worldwide to individuals and teams (maximum 5 people). Cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional collaboration is encouraged. Each participant can only join one team.

Please register and submit through the official Alibaba Cloud Tianchi Platform: <https://tianchi.aliyun.com/competition/entrance/532460>

Detailed rules, data information, and leaderboard updates are available on the same page.

Guiding Units

- Shanghai Artificial Intelligence Laboratory
- Department of Science, Technology and International Cooperation, China Earthquake Administration (CEA)
- Department of Earthquake Monitoring and Forecasting, CEA

Sponsors

- Institute of Earthquake Forecasting, CEA
- China Earthquake Networks Center
- International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI) Commission on Rapid Interdisciplinary Investigation of Significant Earthquakes (RI²sE)

Co-sponsors

- SmartSolo Inc.
- Key Laboratory of Earthquake Forecasting and Risk Assessment, Ministry of Emergency Management
- Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP)
- Artificial Intelligence Branch for Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, China Association for Disaster Prevention
- Commission on Seismic Artificial Intelligence, Seismological Society of China
- Commission on Seismic Observation Technology, Seismological Society of China
- Earthquake Science (an international journal)

Platform Support

- Alibaba Cloud Computing Co., Ltd.

Contact

For inquiries about registration, competition rules, dataset access, and submission, please contact the Organizing Committee at ICAF2026@126.com.

The prize money for this competition is exclusively sponsored by SmartSolo: <https://smartsolo.com>



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