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MONITORING, SIMULATION, PREVENTION AND
REMEDIATION OF DENSE AND DEBRIS FLOWS

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Monitoring, Simulation, Prevention and Remediation of Dense and Debris Flows

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Preface

This book contains papers presented at the First International Conference on Monitoring, Simulation, Prevention and Remediation of Dense and Debris Flows held in Rhodes, Greece, in 2006 and organised by the Wessex Institute of Technology in collaboration with the University of Bologna and the Technological Education Institute of Kavala. The objective of the meeting was to bring together engineers, scientists and managers from laboratories, industry, government and academia to interchange knowledge in the field of dense and hyperconcentrated flows. The contents stress the importance and possibilities of numerical simulation and experimental measurements on all those environmental flows that affect our environment, sometimes dramatically.

The basic concept of dense flow relates to a great variety of natural phenomena that occur both in-field and in the laboratory. A full understanding of them can lead not only to a better description of what happens in nature but also to the development of more effective countermeasures to limit the negative effects or even to predict their dynamics in order to minimise any potential damage.

The Conference aimed to be very specialised but not too restrictive in the topics allowed, so as to explore any possible synergies among all those scientists and professionals working on what can be called environmental flows. This made the First International Conference on Monitoring, Simulation, Prevention and Remediation of Dense and Debris Flows, a unique event.

This book, which is an important addition to the literature, contains the following sections: Debris-flow modelling; Debris-flow phenomenology; Debris and hyperconcentrated flows; Debris flow and landslides phenomena after extreme events; Debris-flow mobilisation; Debris-flow disaster mitigation; Case studies.

The Editors are grateful to the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee who have helped in the selection of the papers included in this book. The quality of the material makes this volume a most valuable tool for scientists and research workers in the field to appreciate the state-of-the-art developments in this important discipline and to seek new techniques and approaches to prevent and control natural disasters of this kind.

The Editors
Rhodes, 2006
Contents

Section 1: Debris-flow modelling

Gullies and debris flows analysis: a case study in Sardinia and a rheological modelling approach
A. Canu & G. Lorenzini ........................................................................................................3

Debris flow hazard and mitigation works in Fiames slope (Dolomites, Italy)
P. R. Tecca, C. Armento & R. Genevois .................................................................15

Prediction of landslide-induced debris flow hydrograph: the Atsumari debris flow disaster in Japan
H. Takaoka, H. Hashimoto, S. Ikematsu & M. Hikida ..............................................27

Method of debris flow prediction based on a numerical weather forecast and its application
F. Wei, K. Gao, P. Cui, K. Hu, J. Xu, G. Zhang & B. Bi ........................................37

Application of the ALE FE method to debris flows
I. Konuk, S. Yu & E. Evgin ..........................................................................................47

Comparison of 1D debris flow modelling approaches using a high resolution and non-oscillatory numerical scheme based on the finite volume method
C. Rodriguez, A. Blanco & R. García .................................................................59

Flood modelling and impact of debris flow in the Madarsoo River, Iran
S. Tjerry, O. Z. Jessen, K. Morishita & H. G. Enggrob ....................................69

Section 2: Debris-flow phenomenology

A procedure for the evaluation of debris flow stratification
E. Larcan, S. Mambretti & M. Pulecchi .................................................................81

Comparative rheologic investigations in a vertically rotating flume and a “moving-bed” conveyor belt flume
R. Kaitna, D. Rickenmann & S. Schneiderbauer ..................................................89

An application of the Hanks stability parameter for the macroviscous-inertial transition in the surface flow of a neutrally buoyant suspension
D. Berzi & E. Larcan ..............................................................................................99
Rheology and pressure loss measurements of silt samples extracted from a dam reservoir
M. Belhadri, A. Nemdili & A. Ladouani ..............................................................109

Using in-situ radionuclides to model sediment transfer at the flow event time scale
P. Laguionie, A. Crave, P. Bonté & I. Lefèvre..................................................119

Section 3: Debris and hyper-concentrated flows
(Special section edited by D. De Wrachien)

Introduction by D. De Wrachien.................................................................131

Research developments in debris flow monitoring, modelling and hazard assessment in Italian mountain catchments
M. A. Lenzi ........................................................................................................135

Long-term monitoring of bedload and debris flows in two small catchments of the Eastern Italian Alps
L. Mao, M. Cavalli, F. Comiti, L. Marchi & M. Arattano .........................147

Some considerations on the application of the FLO-2D model for debris flow hazard assessment
V. D’Agostino & P. R. Tecca .............................................................................159

Operative approaches for debris flow modelling and hazard assessment, Laures watershed, Valle d’Aosta, Italy
M. Segato, L. Mao, M. Coccato, M. A. Lenzi & V. D’Agostino ..........171

Analysis and modeling of debris flows in Gargano watersheds (Puglia region, Southern Italy)
F. Gentile, T. Bisantino, S. Puglisi & G. Trisorio Liuzzi .........................181

Section 4: Debris flow and landslides phenomena after extreme events
(Special section edited by D. Emmanouloudis)

The cause and mechanism of the fatal flood in Eleftheres, Kavala, Northern Greece
D. Emmanouloudis & M. Kaikis .......................................................................195

The cause and mechanism of Gouras stream mudflow in Epirus (W. Greece)
P. Stefanidis & D. Myronidis ............................................................................205
Assessment of post fire debris flow potential in a Mediterranean type ecosystem
I. D. Mitsopoulos & D. Mironidis .......................................................................................................................................221

Evaluating the correlation of extreme climatic phenomena on road slope landslides
S. Berdos & A. Efremidis ..................................................................................................................................................231

Computer analysis of slope failure and landslide processes caused by water
I. Sarafis & J. Zezulak........................................................................................................................................................241

Failure mechanics of joined rock mass
J. Vacek & S. Sedláčková ...................................................................................................................................................251

Back analysis of the Vaiont slide using a multi-block sliding model
C. Stamatopoulos & S. Aneroussis.................................................................................................................................261

Section 5: Debris-flow mobilisation

Triggering mechanisms of soil instability
A. Daouadji, H. Al Gali & F. Darve ..................................................................................................................................273

Causes of debris flow formation in flysch area of North Istria, Croatia
Ž. Arbanas, Č. Benac & V. Jurak.........................................................................................................................................283

Section 6: Debris-flow disaster mitigation

Risk analysis and risk management in Maesstobel
G. Jaeger & R. Schmidt........................................................................................................................................................295

Topographic signature of debris flow dominated channels: implications for hazard assessment
R. Santos & R. Menéndez Duarte........................................................................................................................................301

Debris flow hazards and emergency response in Taiwan
C.-Y. Chen, W.-C. Lee & F.-C. Yu .....................................................................................................................................311

Debris flow research in Russia and the Former Soviet Union: history and perspectives
K. N. Nosov, S. S. Chernomorets, O. V. Tutubalina & E. V. Zaporozhchenko ....................................................................................321
Section 7: Case studies

Risk management in Lattenbach: a case study from Austria
*J. Hübl & M. Moser* ..........................................................333

A study on debris flow disasters along Japanese railways and its critical rainfalls
*S. Watanabe, T. Sugiyama, O. Nunokawa, T. Fujii, K. Okada & H. Mitsunaka* ..........................................................343

Hyper-concentrated flows in tributaries of the middle Yellow River
*H. Hashimoto, H. Takaoka & S. Ikematsu* ........................................353

The Matata debris flows, 18 May 2005
*T. Bassett* ........................................................................363

Author index ..................................................................................371