

WOVO – the case for support

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World Organization of Volcano Observatories

A Commission of the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior

WOVO - background

- Commission of IAVCEI
- Members are volcano observatories
- Three co-leaders
- Organisation for, and of, volcano observatories
- Aims to:
 - Assist VOs to communicate hazard more effectively
 - Provide advice and support to VOs
 - Advocate for VOs in the global community



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Key activities

- Presence on aviation/ash committees (Chris Newhall, Peter)
- WOVOdat – database of volcanic unrest (Chris)
- Contacts for volcano observatories needing advice on hazards monitoring and advice



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The needs

- All three co-chairs (and Chris) operate on a voluntary basis with no funding
 - Progress towards better representation is not as effective as it could (or should) be
- To move WOVO forward faster, dedicated personnel are needed



Suggested funding

- Funds for co-chairs (travel, time) to dedicate time to liaising with VOs in their region and to liaise with other global organisations such as ICAO
- Funds for part-time communications officer to develop links with and between VOs
- Exchanges of scientists and technicians between VOS to build collaborations and expose personnel to alternative hazard mitigation situations
- Develop more VOBPs to address specific topics
 - Cost: ca. US\$800k



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WOVOdat

- Currently based at NTU, Singapore under leadership of Chris Newhall
- Objective is to have a database of past volcano monitoring data available for comparison to current crises
- Operating costs ca. US\$240k pa
- NTU support current to March 2014, but then a need for funding to continue database development and maintenance



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